

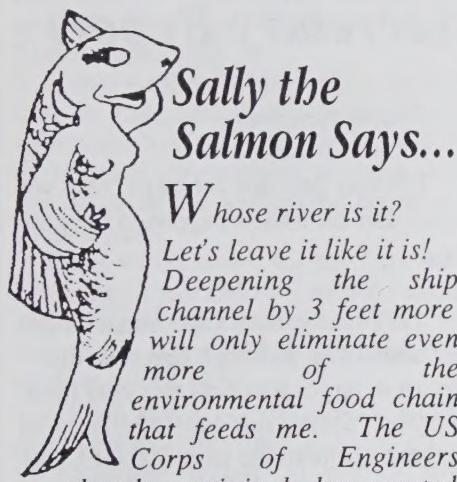
Columbia River Gillnetter

Columbia River Fishermen's Protective Union

Spring 1998 / Vol. 29, No. 1



This picture was taken in 1915 by Frank Woodfield near Warrenton, Oregon at the Flavel Docks. This passenger steamer "Great Northern," was one of two ships which ran 24-hour service between San Francisco and Flavel, weather permitting. A special steamer train from Portland, 100 miles up the Columbia River, met the passengers when the ship arrived. At the time, Prohibition was in effect in Oregon but not in California. People from Astoria and vicinity were invited aboard ship before sailing to dances and parties. It is told that drinks were served aboard. The other ship was called "North Pacific." These ships were owned by the "Hill Line," which was connected to the SP&S railroad. (continues on page 7)



Whose river is it?
Let's leave it like it is!
Deepening the ship channel by 3 feet more will only eliminate even more of the environmental food chain that feeds me. The US Corps of Engineers already unwittingly has created the perfect nesting site for the colony of Caspian Terns when it shored up an island 15 miles from the river's mouth with sand dredged from the Columbia shipping channels.

The nation's largest colony of Caspian terns are picking off young "Sallys" as they migrate to the sea. It is said the birds devoured 6 million to 20 million of the fingerlings in 1996.

Congressmen Battling to Save Killer Dams

By Glen Spain
Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Assn.

"Although dams are seemingly permanent (albeit recent) features of the Northwest riverine environment, like all artificial structures, they have a finite engineering and economic life expectancy....where dams are a significant contributor to the decline of salmon runs, dam removal is an obvious rehabilitative alternative."

--Upstream: Salmon and Society in the Pacific Northwest (National Academy Press, 1996), a report by the National Research Council, national Academy of Sciences (pg. 248).

There are over 2,900 fish-killing dams in the Interior Columbia Basin alone, and nobody knows how many thousands of others scattered throughout the West Coast. In the dam building frenzy of the 20's through the 60's dams were grossly over built. Many of these dams are now obsolete, too expensive or safety hazards. Lots of them cost far more in environmental damage (especially to our salmon fishery) than any social benefits they provide. Some are now scheduled for removal to help restore the salmon populations they have decimated. Yet each and every

What You Can Do

Tell your senator NOT to support Senator Gorton's bill (S.1904) but to instead back all measures to restore Columbia River salmon runs and the industries that depend on them. You can always reach your Senator or Representative by calling:

Congressional Switchboard: (202) 224-3121

You can obtain copies of Congressional bills on the Internet from the Library of Congress's THOMAS Congressional Reporting Service by going to:
<http://www.thomas.loc.gov>

continues on page 8



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We thank them for their support!*

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Secretary Report

Fellow Fishermen:

It's way past due for us to bring you up to date on what's happened the past year.

1997 really wasn't too much different than 1996, although fish runs did return in larger numbers this year than the past. Spring run was 113,000. Fall run over Bonneville over 200,000, and for one reason or another we were not given a fair share of harvest.

In the fall the treaty people caught 75,000 salmon, sports 25,000 and our fishermen less than 4,000. On the sturgeon catch sports caught 40,000 (a little less than the past year) and our catch around 13,000, just a few hundred under our allocation.

— *Jack Marincovich,
Executive Secretary, CRFPU.*

Editorial

Senator Slade Gorton (R-Wash) is back with more tricks to stop dam removal.

Senator Gordon Smith (R-Ore) rich eastern Oregonian, intends to sign on as a co-sponsor. Smith has never had any sympathy for fishermen and salmon enhancement. He got elected by the farmers and power interests, barge navigators and irrigators who see him as their weapon against dam removal.

Gorton has introduced a bill in Congress that would effectively block science-based efforts by federal, state or regional governments to save endangered salmon and steelhead. Gorton's bill would vest in Congress unprecedented power and authority to manage the Columbia River hydroelectric resources and river operations overall for any purpose it sees fit.

Boiling it down, the bill, as it applies to fish-recovery programs in the Columbia Basin, would take precedence over the Northwest Power Planning Act, the Endangered Species Act and the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation Act.

It also would outlaw review by federal or state courts and prohibit any administrative action by state, federal or regional government to mess with the dams unless authorized by an act of Congress.

Time winds down for the fish, now hovering at just below 1 million annually -- down from historic runs of 10 - 16 million and well below a goal of 5 million, set in 1987.

"If we don't act decisively within next two to five years, fish are going to disappear within 20 years," says Rick Williams, chairman of Coutant's science advisory panel.

"It is basically Slade Gorton playing emperor in the Roman Colosseum, turning thumbs down on Snake and Columbia River salmon and saying, 'Kill them all, kill them now.'" Bill Arthur, Northwest regional director, Sierra Club.

Slade Gorton is also back with new efforts to undermine sovereignty status of Indian tribes which is now being debated in Washington DC, and which would open tribes to more legal challenges.

Don Riswick, Editor

Support the Columbia River Gillnetter publication!

The *Columbia River Gillnetter* is the only remaining publication on the west coast devoted exclusively to gillnetting. We have been making a difference for more than 27 years, but our continued existence is threatened by increasing production and mailing costs. Now more than ever, we need a voice to represent our side of the issue, and the *Gillnetter* is our only contact with fishermen, lawmakers and the general public.

If you would like to help, send donations to
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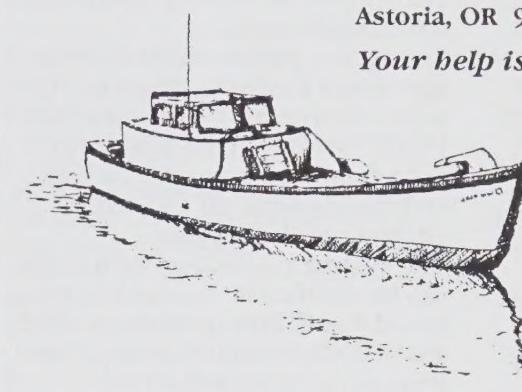
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The Columbia River Gillnetter is published seasonally for the Columbia River Fishermen's Union. Articles, letters and photographs are welcome for submission.



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Fishermen Seek Disaster Declaration

El Nino driving catch away, costing hundreds of millions

By Bill Wallace, San Francisco Chronicle Staff Writer, March 23, 1998

Representatives of the fishing industry will ask officials in Oregon and California to declare parts of the Pacific coast a disaster area today because of El Nino's adverse impact on fish stocks.

The warm current is driving such valuable catch as squid, rockfish, herring, sea urchins and crab out of the cold waters where they are normally taken -- and that's hitting Pacific coast fishermen in the pocketbook.

"Long before the winter storms set in, our fish were feeling the effects of the warm water and lack of food," said Pietro Parravano, president of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations. "The losses are already in the hundreds of millions, and we don't know for sure when water temperatures will return to normal."

Any major impact of the current El Nino on Pacific fisheries could have a high cost for California. According to the California Seafood Council in Santa Barbara, the state boasts one of the five biggest fishing industries in the U.S., and produces revenues of more than \$800 annually. The Pacific coast federation hopes that a disaster declaration will provide its members with access to federal loans and other assistance programs.

The federation, a trade organization that represents 26 different commercial fishing and port associations with members from San Diego to Alaska, said the huge California squid fishery began to decline in July due to El Nino's warm water currents.

This year, almost no squid have been caught. A similar pattern occurred during the 1982-1983 El Nino, when the state's squid take virtually disappeared and portions of the Pacific fishery were declared a disaster area. "In December I wrote California Governor Pete Wilson asking for consideration of a disaster declara-

tion for the squid and herring fisheries," Parravano said. "Now it is evident that sea urchin has also been impacted, and I have written (Oregon) Governor John Kitzhaber...requesting a finding of disaster because of the plight of Oregon's groundfish fishery."

Migration of fish along the Pacific Coast has long been associated with the warm-water currents brought by El Nino. In January, the National Marine Fisheries Service noted that a major consequence of the current warm current "is the loss of commercially important species where they traditionally occur."

The agency projected that El Nino also would push rockfish into cooler waters further from shore, and that Pacific whiting would shift northward from their normal spawning and feeding areas off California, Oregon and Washington.

The long-term effects of such shifts can be significant. It is widely believed that El Nino currents in 1972 and 1973 led to the collapse of the Peruvian anchovy industry. ≈

District #5 News

By Mark Laukkanen

Cathlamet's cannery owned by fish buyer Milt Doumit was the setting of a Hollywood movie SNOW FALLING ON CEDARS. Based on David Guterson's 1995 best selling novel, the film portrays the deep seated feeling of men and women in post World War II America and the relations between white and Japanese Americans. Much of the story deals with gillnet fishing off a fictional island in the Puget Sound area and that led to the Cathlamet setting. They settled on Cathlamet because of the old cannery, it's 1950's look, and its relatively convenient location near lodging and transportation routes compared to Alaska. This is the second movie using the cannery for location. Smelt season started with good hope, however much of the smelt favored Washington coastal rivers for spawning. Prices remained high but small run limited the catch; nearly all went for Sturgeon bait.

Sturgeon fishing this past winter was limited due to quote; not one winter salmon crossed the dock.

Some of the older local gillnetters are seeking sun in the SW part of the country. Not enough fishing left to remain here in the rain all winter.

Many of us have had to find either full-time or part-time day jobs. Looks like the wish of sportsman who told us to find jobs has arrived. However now it is becoming their turn to hang up the poles and learn to play golf. Guess we all have lost with hardly any type of fishing left. ≈

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Fishery Objectives And Guidelines

1. Maximize harvest of spring chinook resulting from smolt releases into select areas.
- In Youngs Bay, a commercial catch of 3,000 chinook is expected in 1998, with fewer than 10 chinook expected in the sport catch.
- Catch expectations for initial seasons in the new select areas are 500 chinook for Tongue Point and 400 chinook for Blind Slough.
2. Minimize impacts on upriver spring chinook and steelhead.
- In Youngs Bay expected catch of upriver spring chinook is 15 fish with steelhead handle fewer than 10 fish.
- For Tongue Point and Blind Slough combined, fewer than 10 upriver chinook are expected to be caught and fewer than 10 steelhead are expected to be handled.
3. Stay within the white sturgeon annual catch guideline for select areas in 1998 of 1,350 fish (10% of the total commercial allocation of 13,470 fish for 1998) recommended by Salmon For All and the Columbia River Fishermen's Protective Union.
- Recommendation to increase the select area allocation from 5% (675 fish) in 1997 to 10% in 1998 was made at the January 6 public meeting.
- Expected catch for the 1998 Youngs Bay spring season is about 400 white sturgeon.
- About 200 white sturgeon are expected to be caught in the combined Tongue Point Basin and Blind Slough fisheries.
- An 8-inch maximum mesh size restriction during April-June in Youngs Bay, Tongue Point, and Blind Slough is recommended to target salmon and not sturgeon (incidental species).

1998 SELECT AREA COMMERCIAL FISHERY RECOMMENDATIONS

Youngs Bay

Dates:

Winter Full-Fleet Test Fishery
Feb 25 (Wed) 7 am-7 am (12 hr) 1 day
Mar 4 (Wed) 7 am-7 am (12 hr) 1 day

Spring Fishery
Apr 23 (Thur) 7 am-7 am (12 hr) 1 day
Noon Apr 27 (Mon)-6 am Apr 28 (Tue) 1 day
Noon May 4 (Mon)-6 am May 6 (Wed) 2 days
Noon May 11 (Mon)-6 am May 14 (Thur) 3 days
Noon May 18 (Mon)-6 am May 22 (Fri) 4 days
Noon May 25 (Mon)-6 pm May 29 (Fr) 4 days
Noon June 1 (Mon)-6 am June 5 (Fr) 4 days
Noon June 8 (Mon)-6 am June 12 (Fr) 4 days
23 days total

- The winter full-fleet test fishery will target the first arrivals of an expected good return of the age 5 component of the run prior to the time when significant interceptions of nonlocal chinook stocks can occur.
- An April 23, 12-hour opening of the spring fishery, followed by an increasing progression of fishing days through the season is designed to maximize the harvest of local stocks while minimizing impacts on nonlocal stocks.
- On-board monitoring during each 12-hour fishing period on February 25, March 4, and April 23 will validate test fishing observations during 1990-93 and 1997.
- Test fishing in 1997 during late February-early March resulted in four chinook (lower river stock) and one steelhead caught in 30 drifts.

Gear:

- 8-inch minimum mesh size restriction in effect during the winter full-fleet test fishery (February 25 and March 4).
- Large, age 5 chinook will be targeted, while minimizing handle of smaller steelhead.
 - 8-inch maximum mesh size restriction in effect during the spring fishery (April 23-June 12).
 - Salmon to be targeted, not sturgeon (incidental species)

Area:

Open waters extend from the lower boundary, at the new Highway 101 bridge, to the upper boundary at a marker at Battle

Creek Slough (Figure 1). Waters southerly of the alternate Highway 101 bridge at the mouth of the Lewis and Clark River are closed (same as 1997).

Allowable Sales: Salmon, sturgeon, and shad.

Other:

Only licensed wholesale fish dealers, or fishers with a preauthorized permit (attachment), and following the conditions of the permit, may possess or transport outside of the Youngs Bay fishing area any salmon taken during the Youngs Bay season when commercial taking of salmon in the main-stem Columbia River is closed (same as 1997).

- Since 1979, transportation of catch by fishers out of the bay during the main-stem closed season has been prohibited.

This recommended transportation rule was initiated during the 1995 fall season. No problems have been encountered with the permit system.

Tongue Point Basin

(13 nights, 7 am-5 am)

Dates:

7 am Apr 29 (Wed)-5 am Apr 30 (Thur)
7 am May 3 (Sun)-5 am May 4 (Mon)
7 am May 5 (Tue)-5 am May 6 (Wed)
7 am May 10 (Sun)-5 am May 11 (Mon)
7 am May 12 (Tue)-5 am May 13 (Wed)
7 am May 17 (Sun)-5 am May 18 (Mon)
7 am May 19 (Tue)-5 am May 20 (Wed)
7 am May 24 (Sun)-5 am May 25 (Mon)
7 am May 26 (Tue)-5 am May 27 (Wed)
7 am May 30 (Sun)-5 am May 31 (Mon)
7 am June 2 (Tue)-5 am June 3 (Wed)
7 am June 7 (Sun)-5 am June 8 (Mon)
7 am June 9 (Tue)-5 am June 10 (Wed)

- Sunday night openings will allow fishing opportunity when Youngs Bay and Blind Slough are closed.

- Open fishing periods when Blind Slough is closed will maximize fishing opportunity.



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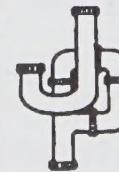
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- Night fishing periods will minimize interactions with recreational boaters.

Gear:

An 8-inch maximum mesh size restriction is recommended to target salmon and not sturgeon (incidental species). Legal gear restricted to a maximum length of 250 fathoms and weight on leadline not to exceed 2 pounds on any one fathom. However, fishers participating in the Tongue Point select area fishery may have stored on board their boats, gill nets with leadline in excess of 2 pounds per fathom.

Area:

Tongue Point Basin is open to fishing in all waters bounded by a line from the red light at Tongue Point to the flashing green light at Tongue Point to the flashing green light at the rock jetty on the northwesterly tip of Mott Island, a line from a marker at the south end of Mott Island easterly to a marker on the northwest bank on Lois Island, and a line from a marker on the southwest end of Lois Island due westerly to a marker on the opposite bank (Figure 2). All open waters are under concurrent jurisdiction (same as fall 1997).

Allowable Sales: Salmon, sturgeon, and shad.

Other:

Transportation or possession of fish outside of the fishing area when the main stem is closed is unlawful unless by licensed buyer. An exception to the rule would allow fishers to transport their catch out of the fishing area with a permit issued by an authorized agency employee after examining the catch.

Blind Slough

(13 nights, 7 am-5 am)

Dates:

7 am Apr 29 (Wed)-5 am Apr 30 (Thur)

7 am May 6 (Wed)-5 am May 7 (Thur)

7 am May 7 (Thur)-5 am May 8 (Fri)
 7 am May 13 (Wed)-5 am May 14 (Thur)
 7 am May 14 (Thur)-5 am May 15 (Fri)
 7 am May 20 (Wed)-5 am May 21 (Thur)
 7 am May 21 (Thur)-5 am May 22 (Fri)
 7 am May 27 (Wed)-5 am May 28 (Thur)
 7 am May 28 (Thur)-5 am May 29 (Fri)
 7 am June 3 (Wed)-5 am June 4 (Thur)
 7 am June 4 (Thur)-5 am June 5 (Fri)
 7 am June 10 (Wed)-5 am June 11 (Thur)
 7 am June 11 (Thur)-5 am June 12 (Fri)

- Open fishing periods when Tongue Point Basin is closed will maximize fishing opportunity.

- Night fishing periods will minimize interactions with recreational boaters.

Gear:

An 8-inch maximum mesh size restriction is recommended to target salmon and not sturgeon (incidental species). Nets restricted to 50 fathoms in length with no weight restriction on leadline.

Area:

Open waters extend from markers at the mouth of Gnat Creek located approximately 1/2 mile upstream of the county road bridge downstream to markers at the mouth of Blind Slough (Figure 3). Concurrent waters extend downstream of the railroad bridge. State waters extend upstream of the railroad bridge and require an Oregon license (same as fall 1997).

Allowable Sales: Salmon, sturgeon, and shad.

Other:

Transportation or possession of fish outside of the fishing area when the main stem is closed is unlawful unless by licensed buyer. An exception to the rule would allow fishers to transport their catch out of the fishing area with a period issued by an authorized agency employee after examining the catch. ≈

More fish run information on page 34

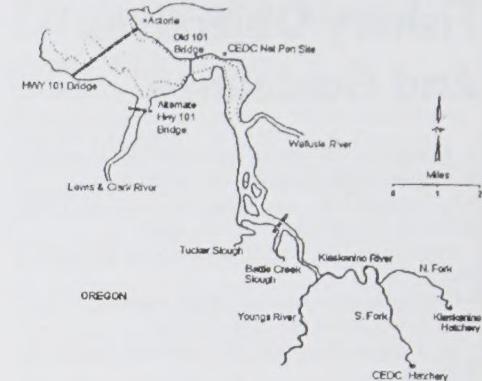


Figure 1. Youngs Bay Select Area

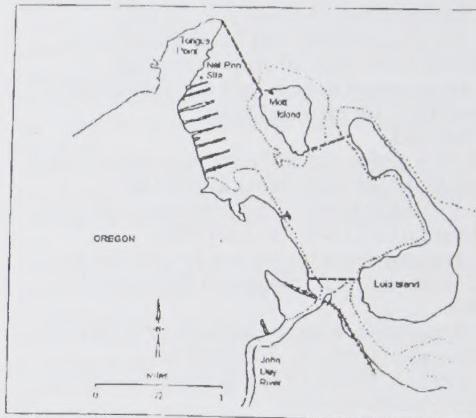


Figure 2. Tongue Point Select Area

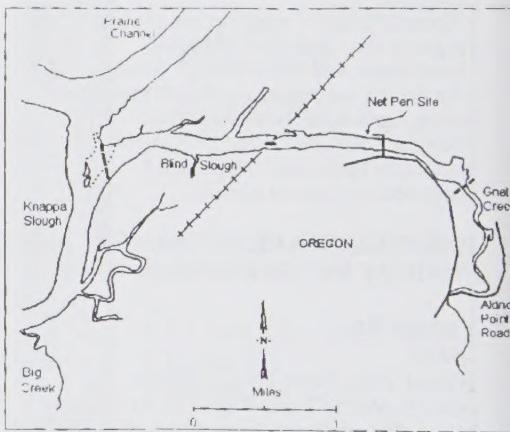


Figure 3. Blind Slough Select Area

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Dear Don Riswick,

I received a copy of the Columbia River Gillnetter Spring 1997-Vol-28, from a friend.

The article on Seining Grounds by Cecil Moberg was interesting to me very much, as I worked on Green Island for Joe Elliott, Miller Island for Ed Elliott and Kothob for Roscoe Miles. (Roscoe Miles has a daughter living in Vancouver, Washington.)

All the grounds that I worked on was before World War Two 1936-1937 and 1939. At that time we received \$3.00 per day and if we stayed the whole season we would receive a .50 cents per day bonus. If the tides were right after 6 o'clock Sunday we would fish it and if we caught enough fish we would receive a full day wages. Less fish, less money.

I lived one block from Cecil Smith at that time, we referred to him as moonlight Smith. All the grounds I worked were built on Piling (stilts). The horse barn and food and hay were on the side. The horse ramp to the water was on the same side. In the middle of the platform was the Mending area. On the other end was the cook shack and sleeping quarters and storage for the Kitchen. At that time we would receive a \$10.00 for a seal scalp and we would save this money until the end of the season, and then we would buy

extra food and have a Party. If a seining Ground did not have good food, they had a hard time getting a good crew. The last season I worked as a Head Hooker. After the war when I was being discharged the interviewer asked what kind of work I did before the war. I explained it to him and he asked me what they call that job. I said "Head Hooker". On my Army Discharge it says occupation "Head Hooker".

As I looked through your paper I noticed a lot of names I went to Astoria High School with. In as much as I graduated in 1939. I imagine most of them are the children and grand children of the students I went to Astoria High School with. When I was a kid, we used to ride across the River on the Ferries to the Washington Side. The tourist would see the Horses on the Seining round going back and forth. They would ask what they were doing and we would explain they were plowing furrows to plant the Salmon Eggs. I noticed the mention of "Sally the Salmon Says". The original idea and drawing was by Bob Chessman of the Astoria Budget. He published it right after the World War 2. He served overseas in Co L 186 INF-41st Division.

I served 39 months overseas before I received my discharge. After the war I was talking to Mr. Merle Chessman who at that time I believe was serving on the Astoria Highway Commission. I asked if

the Oregon Coast Highway would be named the Sunset Highway in honor of the 41st Sunset Division. He explained to me that they had a Devil of a time getting it named the Oregon Coast Highway. He then asked what I thought of naming the Wolf Creek Highway the Sunset Highway as it had not been officially named. I said I thought it was a great idea. The highway was not known as the Sunset Highway until 1946, when Merle Chessman, Astoria Commissioner proposed it. The name was changed from Wolf Creek Highway. This original name was derived from one of Oregon's many Wolf Creeks which happened to cross the Route about midway from Seaside to Portland.

Chessman presented the name to the commission upon the suggestion of Faville Richey, former Astorian who served as sergeant in Company L Astoria's unit during the units epoch making Career in the South Pacific Campaigns during World War II. All of our horses we used on the seining grounds came from Shorgan and Hi Ranch in Eastern Oregon.

Sincerely,
Faville Richey
Portland, Oregon

Editor's Note: Before Bob Chessman died, he gave the CRFPU the copyright to Sally the Salmon.



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one of them has its defenders, including some surprisingly wrongheaded and downright reaction any champions in Congress.

Last month, for instance, Senator Slade Gorton topped the list by filing bill (S.1904) which, in return for unblocking financial support of the removal of only one of two unwanted, illegally built, un-needed and highly destructive dams on the Elwha River In the Olympic National Park (already approved by Congress for removal) would have locked in stone all the current federal dam operations in the Columbia. This means that there could never be any changes in future operations, fish passage, drawdown or anything in the Columbia ever again—absolutely nothing for salmon restoration— without a full vote of Congress. Gorton's bill is so bad The Seattle Times Editorial of April 7th called it "Gorton's Ransom Note" and stated, "Sen. Gorton's brassy hostage ploy on the Elwha is no way to argue that four Snake River dams at the heart of salmon protection debates ought to be left alone... Holding the former hostage for the appearance of protecting the latter is pointless."

Gorton's bill, among other things, would

continues on page 11



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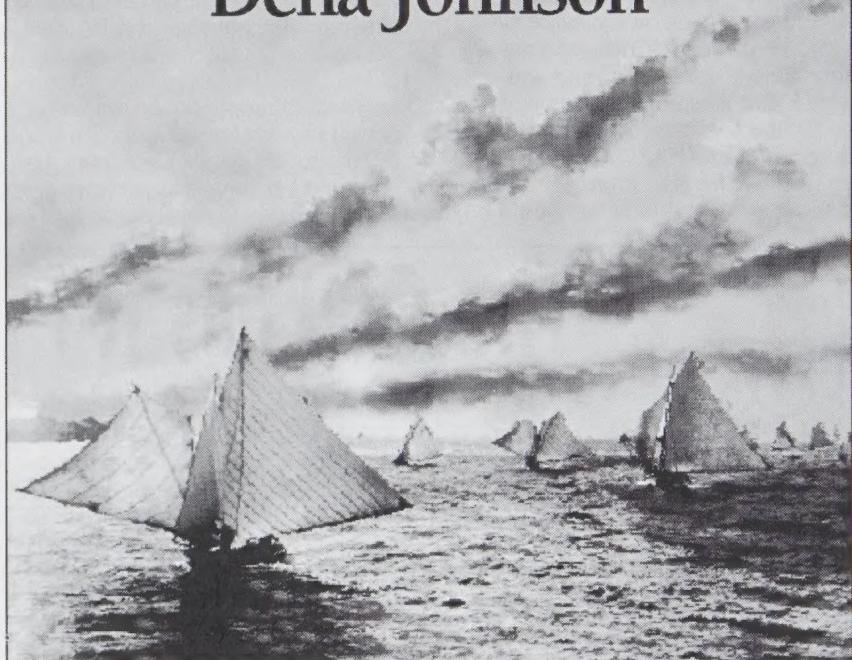
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To the Editors

Birds undo salmon efforts
We now have Ballard Locks at our doorsteps.

We have a federally protected bunch of predators eating up our resources. Not just seals and sea lions this time, but tens of thousands of relatively worthless birds. Dr. Carl Schrecks of Oregon State University in Corvallis, backed by another scientific study by Dan Roby, says 30 to 40 percent of radio-tagged smolts are being eaten up by the terns and cormorants in the Columbia River, all of which are protected by federal law.

Six to 20 million smolts a year are being eaten by the bird based on these scientific studies. This would be equal to the entire production of 66 North Folk [sic] Nehalem hatcheries.

Now that the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife knows they have a problem, what do they plan to do about it? Maybe we're barking up the wrong tree or the wrong end of the river.

Nobody has been able to tell me why the hatchery fish are declining at the same rate the wild fish are on the coastal streams.

The hatchery fish are not dependent on the habitat spawning areas, stream conditions and other conditions because this part of their life cycle bypasses these so-called problems.

But, there is one common denominator which affects ALL streams with or without dams and that is the 1972 Marine Mammal and Migratory Bird Act, which gives these predators full protection but no protection to the prey.

Spending billions of dollars trying to repair the upper rivers while doing nothing to prevent the fruits of these efforts from being eaten up in the estuaries doesn't make any sense to me.

JIM ERICKSON, Nehalem

Deregulate some predators
Newfoundland's codfish industry collapsed in 1992 with a loss of 27,000 jobs. The Canadian government had enough foresight to save Newfoundland's fishing industry - it subsidized the 200-year-old sealing industry. In 1996, the former cod fishermen were able to catch 2000,000 seals for the market. This year's quota is 285,000 and could be increased.

The seal is not poisonous and all body parts could be marketed. Newfoundland public relation kits include dishes prepared with seal meat, seal sausage, seal pepperoni - a seal leather tannery recently opened. Canadian health stores are stocking seal oil pills for arthritis pain and diabetes. Seal penises sell well in Asia. The seal is not an endangered species.

The last government count "Canadian" in Newfoundland was six million seals. Locally, there is no smelt or salmon left in the river, only seals. I have even had people tell me that they have seen seals eating young sturgeon.

FRED KORHONEN, Astoria

BRIEF: Poachers threaten world caviar supply

NEW YORK—The government and environmentalists said Wednesday that the world's supply of caviar was threatened by poachers who were purging the sturgeon from Russia's Caspian Sea and other breeding grounds.

Environmentalists blame indiscriminate poachers who often snatch young sturgeon that are non-caviar producing. Sturgeon, which live as long as 150 years, can reach sexual maturity as late as age 25. ~

ALASKA: Expect Larger Salmon Catch In '98

Biologists at the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game predict a catch of 146 million wild Alaska salmon this summer. That would be nearly 19 percent larger than last year's harvest of 123 million. Statewide, biologists forecast 36.5 million sockeye salmon, including almost 21 million in Bristol Bay. Last year's catch in the world's largest sockeye fishery was a disappointing 12 million fish, about half of what had been expected. The Alaska pink salmon fishery is also expected to be up in 1998 with catches totaling 86 million fish. Last year's pink harvest was 71 million. ~



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continues from page 8

exempt the Columbia and Snake River dams forevermore from the Endangered Species Act; forbid the Corps of Engineers even from any further studies of natural river drawdowns or other salmon protection measures advocated by a number of independent science panels—including one that Gorton himself had formed by previous legislation, prevent any salmon recovery measures beyond that called for in the 1995 National Marine Fisheries Service Biological Opinion (even though that BiOp was never intended to be a long term plan); prohibit any reservoir drawdown below minimum operating pool; prohibit any further efforts toward dam removal or modification of any dam in any form, eliminate all further right of judicial review of Columbia and Snake River management, essentially slamming shut the courtroom doors to the citizenry. Under his bill, Congress would become the sole authority over the river system forever. Nothing could ever be done again for salmon restoration at any of the 60 federally licensed dams anywhere on the Columbia—not even study the problem—without full Congressional authorization.

Fishermen have never been friends of dams. Organized fishermen have halted construction of a number of dams over the years that would have destroyed whole fisheries. In fact, the original design of Bonneville Dam had no fish passage at all—it was not until the Columbia River gillnetters organized and loudly demanded fish ladders and mitigation hatcheries

in the 1930's that they were grudgingly installed. For decades fishermen led the fight for similar mitigation measures all through the Columbia and in the Central Valley of California. None of the Mitchell Act mitigation hatcheries would have been built without demands by fishermen. Time and time again we foretold the damage that dams would do to our salmon fishery. Each time we were told there would be no problem, lied to, outmaneuvered—and many dams were built anyway. Though it is no great comfort now that the damage has mostly been done, seventy years of history have proven us right—dams do kill fish.

Now at last—though it took 160 salmon stock extinctions, widespread fisheries closures and the Endangered Species Act—many state and federal agencies are rethinking the whole issue of dams and fish. Some of the worst of these dams are likely to come out in the near future, or be considerably modified to meet fish passage requirements. Here are some of the results of this sea change.

The Two Elwha Dams in Washington—Congress already approved in 1992 (Public Law 102-495) the purchase and removal of the two Elwha Dams. These dams block important spawning and rearing habitat for ten distinct runs of salmon and steelhead; the surrounding habitat is pristine (Olympic National Park), and several studies indicate that restoring these runs would recapture millions of dollars per year in improved commercial, recreational and Tribal fish. In 1993 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) con-

cluded that the estimated adult salmon population after removal of these dams would average over 200,000 more fish than currently produced. Even the owners of the dams now favor their purchase and removal—it would be cheaper for them to obtain power on the open market than maintain these aging dams. There is no better opportunity for salmon restoration in the Northwest. The only thing holding up this removal is Slade Gorton. Through various parliamentary maneuvers he has systematically prevented Congress from appropriating the money to complete the job since removal was first authorized. Elk Creek Dam in Oregon—Located on a Rogue River tributary just north of Medford, this is a dam that even the Army Corp of Engineers no longer wants or thinks is needed. Authorized in 1962, it was a classic 'pork barrel' project left over from a prior Congress, and it has never been completed. However, enough has been finished to block considerable spawning and rearing habitat for ESA listed coho salmon and steelhead and to disrupt water quality. For years the Corps of Engineers has had to capture salmon below the dam and truck them up stream so they could reach spawning habitat. The Corps of Engineers wanted to blast a notch in the dam to allow salmon to swim freely through it this year, but were blocked by a last minute appropriations rider written by Congressman Bob Smith of Eastern Oregon. No federal or state agency wants the dam. The dam has no pur-

continues on page 29

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Phil Johnson

Surgeon caught on San Joaquin River near Manteca, CA. 1920 was the last year it was legal to catch surgeon there, hence the sign. Photo date is 1928 (approx). Phil also speared salmon on the San Joaquin. Son Dave, owner of Astoria Automotive still has his dad's 10ft long salmon spear.

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Georgiana

Of all the passenger steamers that ran on the Lower River, few are better remembered than the lovely Georgiana. She began her career in the last flush years of passenger service between Portland and Astoria, and outlasted all her competitors on the run.

A sleek, 135-foot propeller steamer, the Georgiana was launched at Joseph Supple's Portland shipyard in 1914. Built for the Harkins Transportation Company, she was named for Mrs. H. L. Pittock, wife of the Oregonian publisher, and Mrs. Anna Hosford, wife of the vessel's first captain. Her narrow, white painted hull and trim, yacht-like appearance caused considerable comment on the waterfront.

Nor did her performance belie her looks. While she was not elegant, she was fast, and few boats could outrun her. Speed and economy had supplanted luxury as the keys to success on the river. During her early years, the Georgiana prospered. She made the downriver run daily, leaving Portland at 7:00 p.m., arriving at Astoria around one o'clock, and tying up in Portland sometime after 9:00 p.m.

When the passenger trade dropped off with increased rail service, she became primarily a freight boat, making stops at landings all along the Lower River. She continued to carry passengers at low rates.

Through the early Thirties, when all the other passenger boats had been driven from the river by automobiles and hard times, the Georgiana kept going. In 1936, however, operating at a heavy loss, she was withdrawn from service. She won a brief reprieve the following year, when she was renamed Lake Bonneville and put on an excursion run to Bonneville Dam. Finally, after several years of idleness and neglect, she was beached and abandoned at Sauvie Island.



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Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

1977 Fall Fish Returns and Prospects for 1998 By Mike Matylewich

The tribes' fall fishery primarily harvests fall chinook and summer steelhead. Based on preseason projections the treaty fishery is expected to catch about 72,000 chinook and about 28,000 steelhead. The fall fishery (August and September) also harvests lesser amounts of coho and walleye. The catch projections are based on sharing principles established under United States v. Oregon case law and the Columbia River Fish Management Plan. The principles include providing the treaty fishery with the opportunity to catch half of the harvestable fish while trying to allow enough fish to pass through to spawning areas (hatcheries as well as natural spawning grounds). The number of fish that return to spawning areas are referred to as the escapement.

Recommendations for escapement goals and harvest levels are made by state, federal and tribal biologists. Considerations are given to populations listed under the Endangered Species Act.

Non-Indians Also Harvest Columbia River Steelhead and Fall Chinook

Non-Indians are allowed to catch the other half of harvestable upriver fall chinook and steelhead. Non-tribal harvests have also been limited by Endangered Species Act considerations.

Non-Indians have taken fall chinook and steelhead in commercial fisheries in the lower Columbia River; fall chinook and steelhead in sport fisheries in both the lower and upper Columbia; and steelhead in sport fisheries in Washington, Oregon and Idaho tributaries. Ocean fisheries off Alaska, British Columbia, and Washington also harvest Columbia River fall chinook.

Fall Chinook Returns

The 1997 prediction for the bright return to the Columbia River is

219,900, the highest since 1989. The major groups of fall chinook are brights, most of them returning to the Hanford Reach area, and tules, most of them returning to Spring Creek Hatchery.

The Snake River fall chinook, a sub-group of the bright fall chinook, is listed as endangered. U. S. fisheries from Alaska to the Columbia River are limited in their take of Snake River wild fall chinook. The projected 1997 return of Snake River wild fall chinook is 1,765, better than the recent 10-year average.

The strength of the summer steelhead returns is in hatchery fish: More than 200,000 are expected this year. The return of wild summer steelhead, estimated at about 40,000, will continue to remain below escapement goals. Upper Columbia River steelhead (those upstream of the Yakima River) are proposed to be listed as endangered and Snake River steelhead are proposed to be listed as threatened.

1998 Projections Not Good News

Jack counts give an indication of future returns. (Jacks are immature salmon that return along with the adult salmon.) Although it is still too early to get a good indication for next year's return, the 1997 jack count at Bonneville is on track to repeat the poor count of 1996. Last year's count was the second lowest since the early 1960s. Poor returns are expected for the next two years because of the consecutive years of low counts.

For spring chinook, the 1997 jack count at Bonneville Dam was the second lowest since 1960, indicating extremely poor returns for 1998.

Mike Matylewich is the manager of CRITFC's Fish Management Department. ~

Sturgeon Size Limits for 1998

Recent regulations have changed the maximum size limit for white sturgeon from 6 feet to 5 feet and for green sturgeon from 6 1/2 feet to 5 1/2 feet, to meet conservation goals for sturgeon management. Columbia River commercial fishers and Washington trawlers already meet these sturgeon size restrictions. Oregon trawl regulations are also the same. ~

Farmed salmon losses due to disease climb to \$40 million

The Friends of Clayoquot Sound released a report on April 29 highlighting the risks to British Columbia of a major salmon farm-related disease outbreak. On April 28, New Brunswick's Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture announced a series of measures to try to control what was described as a disastrous outbreak of infectious salmon anemia (ISA) which has ravaged the salmon farming industry. Describing open netcage salmon farming as "equivalent to a massive game of Russian roulette," Matt Price, who helped author the report "Nightmare in New Brunswick" for the Friends of Clayoquot Sound, was quoted as follows: "It seems only a matter of time before BC follows other salmon farming jurisdictions with a massive disease outbreak."

ISA was thought to be confined to Norway until it appeared in New Brunswick in late 1996. At first three bays were infected with ISA, but veterinarians now say that with regards to salmon farming areas in New Brunswick, they don't know where ISA "isn't." 573,000 fish have reportedly already been slaughtered, and on April 28 New Brunswick confirmed an order to slaughter 700,000 more. A \$10 million bailout package was announced, together with the fallowing of 25 percent of the \$120 million a year industry, taking the cost to \$40 million. Costs to the wild stocks have not been calculated. The report "Nightmare in New Brunswick" points out that the source of the ISA virus is unknown, and that it could already be latent in BC waters.

Gunfire wrecking coastal buoys

By Tim Tesconi Staff Writer, The Press Democrat, Santa Rosa, California

Weather buoys and navigational buoys from Santa Barbara to Eureka are being dinged and damaged — and sometimes put out of commission — by gunfire from fishermen taking potshots at sea lions, according to Coast Guard officials.

"I think it's a small contingent of angry fishermen doing the damage. It's pretty shocking and distressing that this is happening," said Chief Warrant Officer Frank Parent at the Coast Guard office in San Francisco. Likely suspects, he said, are sports fishermen who start drinking alcoholic beverages and take aim at the sea lions. Parent believes most of the gunshot damage to buoys, including those along the North Coast, occurs when fishermen shoot at sea lions while they lounge on the buoys, moored 15 to 30 miles out to sea. He said the weather buoys' solar panels, which are about the same level as the sea lions' heads, are being knocked out by shotguns and high-powered rifles. Parent said a weather buoy costs about \$150,000.

Once the panels are blown out, the weather buoys don't function, causing lapses in vital weather information for commercial fishermen. He said often the smaller, navigational buoys sink because they are literally blasted out of the water.

The issue surfaced this week when six dead sea lions and a seal lion pup were found at Doran Beach on the Sonoma Coast. Donna DeBaets, a park ranger, said it was determined that the six adults were shot. At least

two of the sea lions were decapitated. The Coast Guard and other investigating agencies speculate the sea lions were killed by fishermen who blame the huge mammals for biting into their fish catch. Representatives for both sport and commercial fishing interests said the Coast Guard claims are far-fetched and unsubstantiated. Parent said some of the damage particularly to buoys in Half Moon Bay and Monterey is just vandalism by rowdy people.

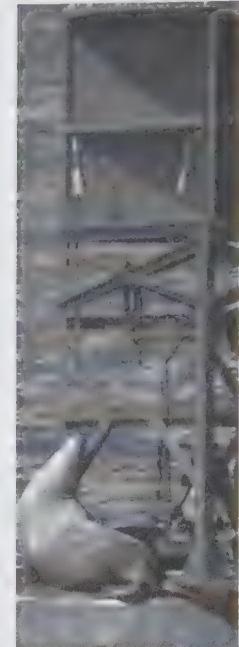
George Boos, a commercial fisherman from Bodega Bay, said no legitimate commercial fisherman would shoot near a buoy.

"It would have to be someone totally ignorant about the value of those buoys to our livelihood. I seriously doubt any commercial fisherman would discharge a firearm around a buoy," said Boos.

Boos said he is unaware of any gunshot damage to buoys on the North Coast. He said he hasn't heard reports of any shots being fired at the buoys on the North Coast for at least four years.

He said fishermen do find the sea lions frustrating because they snatch salmon once they are hooked. But he said this isn't salmon season and it makes no sense that a fisherman would shoot sea lions now.

Rick Powers of Bodega Bay Sport Fishing said he doesn't believe a sport fisherman or commercial fisherman killed the sea lions and said they shouldn't be blamed for shooting buoys. He said sport fishermen are mindful of the laws governing land and sea and well aware that sea lions are protected marine mammals.



"I think it's some sick individual who killed the sea lions," said Powers. He also said it's not the salmon season and there would be no reason for any fisherman to shoot the sea lions.

Powers said crab is the only season in effect, and sea lions aren't a problem for crab fisher men.

Slain sea lions occasionally wash up on the beach, but so many in a short time is unusual and alarming, said Gary Wood of the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Wood downplayed the possibility of human involvement in the animals' decapitation. Sea lions commonly lose their heads after death at sea, he said.

"The connective tissue that connects their head to the body deteriorates," he said. "That head is flopping around and it doesn't have much to hold it on, and it falls off."

"This is not some weird group walk-

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ing around picking up sea lion heads," he said.

Still, Wood's organization and the state Department of Fish and Game will investigate the deaths. Killing the mammals is a violation of federal law and is a felony.

The weather buoy at Bodega Bay has been out of commission for the last nine months, and a replacement is at the Coast Guard pier in San Francisco. Officials are waiting for calmer seas to deploy it.

Parent said the Bodega Bay buoy was not put out of commission because of gunshot damage but it does have pock marks from shotgun blasts.

He said the five other weather buoys along the coast have been damaged by gunshots.

Parent said it's difficult to find who is doing the shooting because it happens miles out on the ocean where there are no witnesses. But he said people with information are encouraged to call the Coast Guard so it can investigate. ~

US Army Corps of Engineers to Remove all Dredging Range Structures

Dredging ranges were historically used by Government and contract dredges maintaining the Federal navigation channels to insure they were within the channel limits. These dredging ranges are separate from those maintained by the Coast Guard for navigation. The dredges now use Global Positioning Systems, which has eliminated the need for the dredging range markers.

None of the pile structures are located within the navigation channel. The intent is to remove all piling. However, if interested parties identify pile structures, which provide valuable wildlife habitat, the Corps will consider leaving the poling in place provided it will not become a hazard to navigation. In

all cases, the steel towers on top of the pile structures that support the ranges, range boards and lights will be removed. Concrete foundations for the shore ranges will also be removed where practical and feasible. Removal of the ranges will begin approximately May 15, 1998.

Additional information may be obtained from Karen Garmire, Waterways Maintenance Section, Construction-Operations Division (CENWP-CO-NWC) or by telephone (503) 808-4351.

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Crab Fishermen Sue Army Corp To Prevent Destruction Of Crab Fishery At Mouth Of Columbia River... Columbia River Dredging Spoils Threaten Largest Crab Nursery in Estuary

Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations
Northwest Regional Office

(Seattle, WA) -- On Monday March 23rd, the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations (PCFFA) -- the west coast's largest organization of commercial fishermen -- and the Columbia River Crab Fishermen's Association (CRCFA), both filed suit in U.S. District Court in Seattle attempting to stop the US Army Corps of Engineers from disposing of Columbia River dredging spoils right on top of the river's largest Dungeness crab fishery and nursery bed. The decision is expected to have enormous impacts on crab fishermen all up and down the coast in both Oregon and Washington. The fishermen's groups are being represented by Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund's Seattle office.

Under the Corps present plan, millions of cubic yards of sand dredged from the lower Columbia River will eventually be dumped at the mouth of the Columbia estuary where the sand will smother the region's most productive crab fishery and nursery grounds. Dungeness crab is a delicacy and is also a valuable harvest -- crab fishing in the Columbia contributes an estimated \$50 million to the local economy and keeps commercial fishermen working in spite of major salmon closures. Now crabbers see their livelihoods further eroded by an unnecessary dumping program.

The safety of fishing boats and other vessels entering or leaving the Columbia River is also placed at risk by the Corps dumping plans. Huge volumes of dredge spoils at the mouth of the Columbia River have created navigational safety hazards for all vessels transiting the Columbia River bar because they tend to mound up and change the channel. CRCFA and others have previously warned the Corps about this mounding. The Corps has responded by continuing

to dump dredge spoils until their own dredge nearly ran aground. Now lives have been lost. Many vessels, even the huge log ship Green Cedar, have sustained heavy weather damage caused by wave intensification of 1.7 times the previous 1985 levels because of this recent mounding. In other words, a wave that was once 20 feet tall would now be 35 feet tall. This impacts all navigation at the mouth of the Columbia River and raises the accident potential unnecessarily. Mounding has affected 50% of the crab fleets fishing days this current season.

"All we are asking is that the Corps take the sand about six miles farther out, and dump it off the continental shelf instead of killing our crab fishery. Instead they are just barging ahead because they don't want to consider the consequences to our industry," commented Dale Beasley, Commissioner of the Columbia River Crab Fishermen's Associations who represents about 600 Washington, Oregon, California and Canadian fishermen, including the 45 members of CRCFA. The Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife and even other federal agencies are also very concerned about the lack of data on the effects of untold tons of sand dumped on top of the Dungeness crab grounds.

Under their planned dumping program, the Army Corps has expanded what is called "Site B" by more than 12-fold, to an area of eight square miles, encompassing the most productive crab fishery and breeding grounds in the estuary. Any dumping in this area could jeopardize this important resource. Another chosen location, "Site E," also has a large number of juvenile and soft shelled crabs during particular times of the year.

The Army Corps has never fully studied the potential impacts of its dumping program on crabs. Instead the Corps is relying heavily on a very old 1983 environmental impact statement (EIS) as it should have done. The dredging program is being pushed so that larger ocean-going and mostly foreign-owned cargo vessels are able to reach all the way up the Columbia to the City of Portland. There is thus intense political pressure to get the dredging program up and running as soon as possible in spite of potential downriver consequences. The crab fishermen's livelihoods and downriver fishing communities may be needlessly sacrificed as a result.

dump there," noted PCFFA's Northwest Regional Director Glen Spain. "None of us are saying don't dredge, but why dump the stuff in the one place it will do the most damage to crab fishermen? Frankly, the Corps just does not care -- it is not that much more expensive and a lot less destructive to just take the stuff out about six more miles and dump it in deep water where crabs don't live and fishermen don't fish."

Another option for the sand from the dredging would be to put it back on Washington State beaches which are threatened with heavy erosion and which have already lost a lot of their sand volume due to El Nino-driven storms and high tides. Washington state has expressed interest in this idea, but so far the Army Corps of Engineers has not seriously considered this option either.

As the largest trade organization of commercial fishermen on the west coast, this is not the first time that PCFFA has taken on the Army Corps of Engineers. The Corps tried to dump dredge spoils in the heart of the commercial fishery off of San Francisco Bay 10 years ago, and were battled to a stop by PCFFA and fishermen there -- and for many of the same reasons raised in this suit. "We will always protect the interests of family commercial fishermen coastwide. We could never just stand aside while the Army Corps' actions bankrupt fishermen and destroy the resource," commented PCFFA's Glen Spain.

"The Corps have shown a total disregard for protecting valuable Columbia River fisheries," commented PCFFA's President, Pietro Parravano, a long-time commercial fisherman himself. "The crab fishermen in the Columbia needed our help to fight that kind of short-sighted and destructive policy, and we gladly give it to them. Fishermen stick together." Parravano also added, "It is disappointing to see the Corps of Engineers as obstinate now as they were ten years ago when we beat them in court on the same issues off San Francisco Bay. Their memories are short-lived -- they have already traveled down this road before with exactly the same participants. The Corps should prevent the inevitable and quit wasting taxpayer money on misguided dumping projects that displace fishermen. They need to sit down immediately with fishermen and work out a long-Term Management Plan, just as they eventually did in San Francisco Bay ten years ago. I would also like to encourage

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"There is simply no need for the Corps to

members of Congress from districts that will be adversely affected by the Corps ill-advised actions to promote dialogue at the bargaining table instead of in the courtroom. The precedent has already been set on the process of establishing a compatible and agreeable dump site for dredge spoils."

PCFFA also has ongoing suits against the Army Corps of Engineers for its mismanagement of the Columbia River hydro-power system, which destroys far too many salmon. Changes in the dumping program being sought may also help salmon migrating in and out of the river.

PCFFA, a federation of small boat family commercial fishermen which also includes coastwide organizations such as the Crab Boat Owner's Association, is also deeply concerned about the potential for the mud to mound and create even worse hazards for small fishing boats. "Fishing is dangerous enough without the Corps deliberately creating more ways for boats to sink," continued Spain. "If they dump in some of the places they are planning, more people are going to get hurt or killed!"

Fishermen are claiming that the Corps dumping proposal violates both the Clean Water Act and the Ocean Dumping act. Under the Ocean Dumping Act ("ODA"), dredged materials may not be disposed of in ocean waters unless the Secretary of the Army determines that "the dumping will not unreasonably degrade or endanger human health ... or the marine environment, ecological systems, or economic potentialities. To date the Corps has not even studied most of the potential impacts on the fishery.

"The Corps admitted back in 1983 that they had no idea what impact this dumping would have on crabs. But they did it anyway," commented Attorney Amy Sinden, Esq., staff Attorney with Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund. "Now fifteen years later they've expanded the dumping site to cover more than eight square miles of prime Dungeness crab habitat and they still haven't done any more studies to try to figure out how many crabs will be smothered and killed. That's against the law, plain and simple."

"The Columbia River Crab Fishermen's Association (CRCFA) is committed to preservation of crab habitat and resources while maintaining navigational safety for all vessel operators at the mouth of the Columbia River. If more people had stepped up 30 or 40 years ago and demanded salmon habitat protection, the taxpayers of this country would not now be faced with hundreds of millions of dollars of salmon habitat restoration efforts," noted CRCFA's Dale Beasley.

"Dredge activity does have enormous negative impact on crab habitat. CRCFA's goal here is to advance measures that avoid these adverse impacts (including better monitoring) to protect the most valuable commercial species in Washington and Oregon -- Dungeness crab. This can be accomplished by permanent deactivation of dumping in 'Site B.'" Beasley continued, "The Corps simply needs to develop new sites which are less environmentally intrusive. Our vision includes a new sport fishing reef located within ten miles of shore. Direct sand placement on Benson Beach could also help solve serious coastal erosion problems there. Our own plan would benefit all those in the region, in a cost effective manner, and preserve habitat, natural resources, navigational safety, continued large ship traffic, local economies and would prevent coastal erosion, benefit both sports and commercial fishing, save a national treasure (Fort Canby State Park), and even allow the US Coast Guard Motor Life Boat School to remain active. If the Corps continues down its current pathway, however, they would jeopardize all of this."

The Plaintiffs in the suit are the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations, the Columbia River Crab Fishermen's Association and the Institute for Fisheries Resources, a nonprofit marine conservation organization affiliated with PCFFA. They are seeking an injunction against the Corps dumping program and better measures to protect the valuable Dungeness crab resource as well as measures that increase vessel safety. The Columbia River crab fishery is one of the largest on the west coast. ≈

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The Iowa

At early morning she sailed for sea,
The sea and to her fate.
Bound for San Francisco
She was to cross the Golden Gate;
But a mightier hand took the wheel that night
As the dawn became bleak and thick,
For she ran ashore, to sail no more,
On the edge of Peacock spit!

A gale was howling while she struck,
The sea was a raging hell!
That slashed the Iowa's bow and stern,
And left it a battered shell.
It took the lives her valiant crew--
Not a man left to tell the tale;
As the Iowa sank to a watery grave,
To the tune of a howling gale!

We cannot conceive the horrors and pain
Her men must have suffered that morn.
We cannot imagine the struggle they fought;
As they faced the howling storm.
For the sea is good and the sea is bad;
We cannot control its whims;
We can only trust to the Almighty God
To forgive us for our sins.

So we say goodbye to the ship and crew,
The Iowa that will sail no more!
They have reached a port of a different sort,
And have found a paradise shore.
A memory lives of that cold gray dawn;
A memory of the sea and her tricks,
Where a symbol lies, of a mast standing high
On the sands of Peacock spit!

--Harold L. Phister



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Steelhead Purchases By Non-Indians Finally Legalized - Discriminatory Rule Changed

By Tim Weaver

The 1855 treaties signed by the Yakama, Umatilla, Nez Perce and Warm Springs tribes recognize each of these tribes' perpetual rights "to take fish" at "all the usual and accustomed" places. The fish taken by the tribes since time immemorial include what the non-Indian culture now calls steelhead.

Steelhead, along with all the other "fish" taken by treaty fishers, have always been an item of trade, barter and sale; first, among Indian people and then, with non-Indians after their arrival in the Northwest. Anyone who is old enough to remember Celilo Falls knows that tribal fishermen sold their catch, including steelhead, over-the-bank to all purchasers. Everyone benefitted - the tribal economy was vibrant and non-Indian citizens got wonderful fresh fish at reasonable prices.

Washington, by act of the legislature in the mid-1950s, declared that steelhead were "game fish," and could neither be caught in nets nor sold. Oregon, by citizen referendum in 1975, also made steelhead "trout" a sport fish. However, the referendum did recognize the right of treaty Indians to catch them.

Then, the Oregon Wildlife Commission, by administrative rule, restricted the purchase of treaty-caught steelhead solely to commercial buyers. Under the rule, non-Indians could be fined up to \$5,000 for possessing steelhead legally caught by tribal members. While the Oregon restriction was not an outright ban on tribal sales, it had the effect of severely limiting tribal options.

Federal Judge George Boldt held Washington's laws invalid in 1974. Shortly after the Oregon administrative rule was enacted in 1975, the Yakama tribe questioned its validity. In a letter to this writer, the Chairman of the Oregon Wildlife Commission advised:

In view of the fact that the best market for fresh steelhead is in eastern states and European markets, we do not believe that the proposed system would have an effect upon the demand for or price of steelhead.

If it follows that the rule does not provide an adequate market for the Indian catch it can be modified later.

John McKean to Tim Weaver, July 15, 1975.

Shortly thereafter the Yakama Nation challenged the regulation in federal court. Judge Robert C. Belloni denied a temporary restraining order, but advised Oregon that:

This regulation will almost certainly not survive close review. It has the potential for eliminating the commercial harvest of steelhead by the Indians and it is obviously not the least restrictive alternative to accomplish the State's goal. ...The defendants should re-examine the rule at their next meeting.

Twenty years later, on Friday, August 22, 1997, after extensive negotiations and good faith settlement offers by the four tribes, the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission refused to amend its steelhead sale rule.

With the tribal fishery about to start and the tribal marketing effort in full swing, tribal attorneys and CRITFC staff mobilized to seek an emergency restraining order and eventual permanent injunction against enforcement of the Oregon regulation.

The basis for the tribal challenge was that the regulation had nothing to do with conserving the steelhead resource from biological damage, and, accordingly, was invalid as applied to tribal fishers. Numerous affidavits and exhibits were prepared, along with motions for injunctions and supporting legal

memoranda were prepared and filed with the federal court by the afternoon of Tuesday, August 26, with a hearing requested by noon the following day.

Even in light of that tribal action, the Oregon Commission refused to budge. Finally, Oregon Department of Justice attorneys, after review of the situation, determined that Judge Belloni was right way back in 1975 - the Oregon rule could not stand up to close legal scrutiny. Accordingly, they agreed to an order which permanently enjoined the Oregon steelhead sales prohibition. The order was signed at 7:44 a.m. by the Honorable Malcolm F. Marsh, District Court Judge for the District of Oregon, providing that:

To give effect to the treaty Indian fisheries provided for in the CRFMP [Columbia River Fish Management Plan] and to fully comply with the plaintiff-intervenor Tribes' treaty rights as defined in the previous orders of this Court, the parties agree that all non-Indian members of the general public in Oregon can purchase and possess steelhead and walleye lawfully caught by treaty Indians during commercial fishing seasons and that OAR 635-06-226, OAR

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Astoria now has 9 State titles

Knappa now has 6 State titles



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Cowapa League final standings

COWAPA LEAGUE FINAL STANDINGS

League	Overall	
	W	L
Astoria	14	0
St. Helens	11	3
Scappoose	9	5
Seaside	8	6
Tillamook	7	7
Clatskanie	3	11
Rainier	3	11
Banks	1	13

LEAGUE PLAYOFFS

Thursday, March 5
(Loser out)
at Scappoose 65, Seaside 55

Saturday, March 7
(Winner to state, loser out)
at St. Helens 56, Scappoose 49
Monday, March 9
(State seeding game)
at Astoria 89, St. Helens 63

1998 BOYS ALL-LEAGUE TEAM
Austin Houghtaling, 6-9 Astoria senior
(co-player of the year); Eli Etro, 6-0 Astoria senior (co-player of the year); Riley Baker, 5-11 Scappoose senior; Jeremy Cox, 6-3 St. Helens senior; Stevie DuBois, 6-2 St. Helens senior; Bryan Hestmark, 6-2 Tillamook senior; Chris Cohen, 6-6 St. Helens junior; Derek Anderson, 6-5 Scappoose freshman; Chuck Heiner, 6-2 Astoria senior; Jeff Rask, 5-11 Rainier

senior; Matt Benjamin, 6-2 Tillamook senior; Brian Taylor, 6-5 Seaside senior; Eli Anderson, 6-5 Seaside senior.

Honorable Mention

Joel Morrison, 6-2 Seaside senior; Brian Ackerman, 5-7 Banks junior; Nick Smith, 5-10 Clatskanie senior; Kirk Werner, 6-5 Seaside sophomore; J.R. Duehring, 5-10 Scappoose senior; Brent Klumph, 6-2 Tillamook senior; Travis Nagunst, 6-0 Rainier senior; Danny Kneeland, St. Helens senior; Justin Bums, 5-10 Clatskanie sophomore; Gary Johnson, 6-2 Scappoose junior; Jason Thorson, 6-0 St. Helens senior; John Frach, 6-5 Clatskanie junior; Adam Svensen, 5-10 Astoria senior.

Team Rosters

Astoria Fishermen

1997-98 Boys Basketball

No.	Player	Ht	Wt	Yr
Starters				
43	Eli Etro	6-0	175	Sr
33	Adam Svensen	5-10	155	Sr
31	Chuck Heiner	6-2	165	Sr
45	Austin Houghtaling	6-9	215	Sr
51	Justin Kalar	6-5	185	Jr
Reserves				
15	Jeremy Ahola	5-11	140	Sr
21	Clint Kindred	6-0	165	Sr
41	Filby Folk	6-2	185	Jr
13	Michael Nerenberg	6-0	145	Sr
35	Jon Devos	6-0	160	Sr
23	Kevin Servino	6-1	170	Soph
25	Joel Jenson	5-11	170	Jr

Head Coach: Mike Goin.

Assistant coaches: Loren Bruner, Bob Landwehr, Mark Fick.

Knappa Loggers

1997-98 Boys Basketball

No.	Player	Ht	Wt	Yr
Starters				
00	Mike Cokley	5-9	155	Jr
14	Stig Fremstad	5-11	173	Jr
20	Jed Miethe	6-0	157	Jr
32	Darren Smith	6-3	179	Sr
33	Brian Jackson	6-9	221	Jr
Reserves				
34	Nathan Marks	6-1	164	Jr
45	Tim Adams	5-9	148	Jr
52	Derek Bangs	6-2	171	Sr
21	Mike Rathfon	5-10	151	Jr
42	Robbie Ledgerwood	6-2	166	Soph

Head Coach: Craig Cokley.

Assistant coaches: Rich Evans, Lyle Patterson, Stan Sporseen.

Manager: Mandy Beedle.





Chiles Center, University of Portland
March 17-21 1998
Astoria High School State Champions!

From left to right
Nicholas Filori (Ball Boy)
Standing: Assistant Coach Loren Bruner
Eli Etro
Chuck Heiner
Jon Deros
Filby Folk
Jeremy Ahola
Joel Jenson
Adam Svenson
Austin Houghtaling
Kevin Servino
Head Coach Mike Goin
Justin Kalar
Michael Nerenberg
Assistant Coach Mark Fick
Kneeling: Clint Kindred



Front row, left to right: Wm. Hanson, Moore, Palmberg, Seehorn, Love. Second row: G. Crandall, Wirkkunen, Hoff, Parker, Mitter, C. Crandall.



Knappe's Class 2A state boys basketball champions presented the tournament bracket and championship trophy to the student body at a Thursday afternoon assembly honoring the team. Pictured are head coach Craig Cokley and players Tim Adams, Robbie Ledgerwood, Jed Meete, Derek Bangs, Brian Jackson, Mike Cokley, Mike Rathfon, Stig Fremstad, Darren Smith and Nathan Marks. Assistant coach Stan Sporsen is in the background. Knappe claimed the state title by beating the Lost River Raiders 78-63 Saturday at the Pendleton Convention Center.

ANDY DOLAN—The Daily Astorian



Astoria's 1935 Fighting Fishermen State Basketball Champs L-R - Back Row - Coach John Warren, Willard Caspell, Albert Luukinen, Mel Olson, Wally Johansen, Bob Wright - Mgr. Bill Van Dusen - Front Row - Robert Aner, Henry Nielsen, Robt Rissman, Ted Sarpola, Leland Canessa. This was the last year as coach for John Warren. He went on to coach at University of Oregon and so did many of his players. In 1939 the Oregon Tall Firs won the 1st NCAA Basketball National Championship and four Astorians were there playing on the team in Madison Square Garden the night they won 1st Place. Astoria High School won the State Championship in 1914 and was 3rd place in 1933. Many, many athletes up and down the Columbia River earn their college money through the fishing industry.



Astoria High School Girl's Basketball Team

Back Row:
54-Rienna Gildner
22-Courtney Person
20-Jodi Salmi
24-Sia Philapakis
32-Laeh Schavermann
44-Rachel Stokeld
Front Row:
42-Melissa MacClain
14-Hanna Long
30-Amie Johnson
10-Andera Kustura
34-Jammie Foley
Coach: Tighe Davis



And the fans roared

PORTRALD—Adam Svensen fired a pass from backcourt to Chuck Heiner as Astoria High basketball fans old and young roared. They roared for this team, counting off the final seconds as Heiner finished the scoring with a layup at the buzzer. They roared for Coach Mike Goin, who finally realized the ultimate prize after years of accomplishing everything but this. And they roared for themselves and for those who came before them.

Fifty-six years of pent-up passion came pouring out Saturday, March 21, 1998.

As the buzzer sounded-barely audible over the din of the estimated 3,000 Astoria fans in the crowd of 4,113 that witnessed the title-clinching triumph over Pleasant Hill - Goin and assistant coach Loren Bruner went leaping onto the court.

Dick Lee, the tournament's public address announcer, shouted "ASTOR-I-A!" into his microphone. Heiner stopped along the baseline near the Astoria bench and was immediately swallowed by the long arms of Austin Houghtaling. Within seconds Goin and Bruner were dancing in embrace, joined by Houghtaling as the three shared a bear hug. Other players were engulfed in the traditional pig pile as fellow students ignored the useless pleas from Lee for fans to stay off the Chiles Center floor.

"I can't even explain it. It's something that's going to be with me for the rest of my life," Adam Svensen said later. "It feels so good right now. I can't explain it. It's amazing."

Astoria supporters basked in the glow of the moment as tournament MVP Houghtaling cut the first strand of twine from the rim, followed by Clint Kindred, who earned himself a permanent spot in the hearts of Fishermen fans with his unexpected rise from defensive stopper to offensive spark plug.

"Never had anything like it. The fans just made it that much better," said Eli Ettro, a second-team all-tournament selection who played his 104th and final game for the Fishermen Saturday night. "The state championship is good, but with all the community (here) it's wonderful. I've seen people that I just see on the streets and I don't even know, they're up congratulating everybody. It's a great experience. I'm glad I experienced it. I'm glad it happened at least once in my high school career."

"I can't even explain it. It's the most exciting feeling," said Houghtaling, who was hoisted into the air by a mob of students and teammates during the celebration at midcourt.

"Right now it's overwhelming. It hasn't sunk in," Heiner said when he finally reached the locker room. "The crowd, the state championship. It's not hard to find the energy for it. I mean, you get out there and you make a basket and it's so loud on the floor. It's no problem finding energy."

At halftime, with the Fishermen struggling and behind 33-25, the team needed an energy boost. The boisterous crowd helped provide it, according to Houghtaling.

"At halftime, Goin was just real composed. He just said that if we're going to win the game we need to concentrate and assert ourselves on defense or it's not going to happen," Houghtaling recalled. "All of us were just contemplative and thinking about that. Then when we came out and the fans just went nuts, that's when I got all pumped up again.... the fans were so loud when we came back out of the locker room that got me real pumped up knowing how much they believed in us and supported us."

The Twilight Room, a watering hole near the Chiles Center, became an Astoria enclave as Fishermen supporters - from former players to lifelong fanatics - reveled in the moment Saturday

By Paul Danzer
The Daily Astorian

night. Some showed off their game tickets, uncut because they wouldn't let the Chiles Center ticket takers do such a thing to an item destined to be framed.

Many expressed their happiness for Goin, the hometown boy who has made this program one of the most respected in the state but had never gotten past the quarterfinal round of the state tournament. Some had trouble talking about it without choking up. The coach said he was receiving the same reaction after returning to Astoria with the team Sunday afternoon.

"It's unbelievable. It just kills people. So many people called or stopped to talk about it and they start choking up," the coach said. Goin told his team that if it made it to the state finals it would see Astorians take over Chiles Center. His players weren't disappointed. Ettro said when he dreamed of what winning a title would be like it wasn't anywhere near this big of a reaction. "It's amazing, all the support from the fans and everything. They helped out a lot, too. They were our 13th player. They were big."

"It's fun to have everybody feel like they're living this through us," said Houghtaling, who brought down the house with a thunderous slam dunk that all but clinched the championship late in the game, then raised the roof when he raised both arms to the stands in triumph as Heiner stepped to the free throw line with 16 seconds left and the trophy secured.

"That whole last minute was wild," Houghtaling said. "The crowd was just sooo loud."

"We knew we could do it," Svensen said. "That second half we were down eight we went out and did it. "We met all our goals this year," Svensen continued. "It was just a dream season for us all. Us seniors, we played our last game tonight and we played well and came out with the state championship."

STATE TOURNAMENT

March 27-21
At University of Portland

First Round

Astoria 66, Gold Beach 49
St. Helens 60, Madras 50

Quarterfinals

Astoria 55, Henley 47
Pleasant Hill 59, St. Helens 46

Fourth-place semifinals

Newport 77, St. Helens 54

Championship semifinals

Astoria 70, Taft 45

Championship Game

Astoria 56, Pleasant Hill 46

ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAMS**First Team**

Austin Houghtaling, 6-9 Sr., Astoria (unanimous); Kevin Broderick-Kartye, 6-7 Jr., Pleasant Hill; Travis Melvin, 5-11 Sr., Pleasant Hill; Brian Miller, 6-1 Sr., Madras; Robert Wine, 5-9 Sr., Taft.

Second Team

Tim Frost, 6-9 Jr., Henley; Alfonso Powers, 5-10 Sr., Gold Beach; Matt Johnson 6-9 Jr., Henley; Josh Hildebrandt, 6-2 Sr., Cascade; Eli Ettrø, 6-0 Sr., Astoria.

TOURNAMENT LEADERS**SCORING**

Player, team	Pts	Gms	Avg
Austin Houghtaling, Ast.	90	4	22.5
Brian Miller, Madras	82	4	20.5
Jerold Rico, Madras	80	4	20.0
Alfonso Powers, Gold B.	76	4	19.0
Travis Melvin, Pleasant Hill	71	4	17.8
Jon Tennison, Henley	67	4	16.8
Kevin Broderick-Kartye, PH	65	4	16.3
Robert Wine, Taft	63	4	15.8
T.J. Caughell, Reedsport	47	3	15.7
Andy Borbon, Baker	31	2	15.5

REBOUNDING

Player, team	Reb	Gms	Avg
Kevin Broderick-Kartye, PH	58	4	14.5
Austin Houghtaling, Ast.	57	4	14.3
Tim Frost, Henley	54	4	13.5
Jamie Callaway, Hidden V.	22	2	11.0
Dean Scruton, LaSalle	21	2	10.5
Jim Howell, Newport	40	4	10.0
Chris Cohen, St. Helens	30	3	10.0
Andy Borbon, Baker	19	2	9.5
Walter Gager, Sisters	28	3	9.3
Matt Johnson, Henley	37	4	9.3

ASSISTS

Player, team	Ast	Gms	Avg
Ryan Garrett, Hidden V.	12	2	6.00
Eli Ettrø, Astoria	22	4	5.50
T.J. Caughell, Reedsport	14	3	4.67
John Powell, Cascade	18	4	4.50
Jason Cordes, Madras	18	4	4.50
Jacob Rothauge, Sisters	12	3	4.00
Jeremy Cox, St. Helens	11	3	3.67
Alfonso Powers, Gold B.	13	4	3.25
Travis Melvin, Pleasant Hill	13	4	3.25
Robert Wine, Taft	13	4	3.25

STEALS

Player, team	Stl	Gms	Avg
Travis Melvin, Pleasant Hill	17	4	4.25
Josh Hildebrandt, Cascade	16	4	4.00
Chris Baasten, La Salle	8	2	4.00
Jerold Rico, Madras	13	4	3.25
Brian Miller, Madras	12	4	3.00
Robert Wine, Taft	12	4	3.00
Jacob Rothauge, Sisters	9	3	3.00
Ryan Garrett, Hidden Valley	6	2	3.00

BLOCKED SHOTS

Player, team	BSG	M	Avg
Tim Frost, Henley	21	4	5.25
Jim Howell, Newport	13	4	3.25
Kevin Broderick-Kartye, PH	13	4	3.25
Austin Houghtaling, Ast.	8	4	2.00
Chris Cohen, St. Helens	6	3	2.00
Loren Joseph Baker	4	2	2.00

STATE TOURNAMENT

At Pendleton Convention Center

TROPHY GAMES

Saturday March 14

Championship: Knappa 78, Lost River 53

Third-Fifth Place: Salem Academy 69, Oakland 60 (OT)

Fourth-Sixth Place: Regis 61, Western Mennonite 50

ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAMS**First Team**

Brian Jackson, Knappa, 6-9 junior post; Josh Davis, Salem Academy, 6-8 senior post; Lawson Struve, Lost River, 6-4 junior forward; Marcus Gries, Regis, 6-2 senior post; Mike Cokley, Knappa, 5-10 junior guard.

Second Team

Eric Ivanitsky, Western Mennonite; Mauristo Rayas, Lost River 5-6 junior guard; Jason Simmons, Oakland, 6-6 sophomore post; Jaime Olvera, Umatilla, 6-2 senior post; Zach Hollin, Salem Academy, 6-5 senior wing.

TOURNAMENT LEADERS**SCORING**

Player, team	Pts	Gm	Avg
Brian Jackson, Knappa	72	3	24.3
Lawson Struve, Lost River	60	3	20.0
Mike Cokley, Knappa	58	3	19.3
Josh Davis, Salem Academy	58	3	19.3
Marcus Gries, Regis	49	3	16.3
Eric Ivanitsky, W. Mennonite	45	3	15.0
Pete Baker, W. Mennonite	43	3	14.3
Jaime Olvera, Umatilla	41	2	20.5
Zach Hollin, Salem Aca.	41	3	13.7
Jason Simmons, Oakland	40	3	13.3
Mauristo Rayas, Lost River	34	3	11.3

REBOUNDS

Player, team	Reb	Gm	Av
Josh Davis, Salem Academy	40	3	13.3
Marcus Gries, Regis	39	3	13.0
Brian Jackson, Knappa	32	3	10.7
Eric Ivanitsky, W. Mennonite	26	3	8.7
Jaime Olvera, Umatilla	24	2	12.0
Darren Smith, Knappa	24	3	8.0
Lawson Struve, Lost River	23	3	7.7
Stig Fremstad, Knappa	20	3	6.7
Zach Hollin, Salem Academy	19	3	6.3
Jeremy Beasley, Lost River	18	3	6.0

ASSISTS

Player, team	Ast	Gm	Av
Mike Cokley, Knappa	18	3	6.0
Mauristo Rayas, Lost River	17	3	5.7
Andrew Humphreys, Oak.	15	3	5.0
Dustin Luley, Regis	15	3	5.0
Josh Davis, Salem Academy	12	3	4.0
Mark Snyder, W. Mennonite	12	3	4.0
Stig Fremstad, Knappa	11	3	3.7
Pete Baker, W. Mennonite	9	3	3.0
Jeremy Beasley, Lost River	8	3	2.7
Zach Hollin, Salem Academy	8	3	2.7
Troy Walther, W. Mennonite	8	3	2.7

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

Saturday, March 14

LOST RIVER (24-5) 53 - Jeremy Beasley
5-16 3-4 14, Struve 5-15 1-1 11, M. Rayas 5-12 0-10, Chin 1-8 2-4 4, Kandria 1-4 0-2, Pyle 0-1 0-0 0, F. Rayas 3-7 0-0 7, Backus 1-4 0-0 3, Taylor 1-3 0-0 2, Hernandez 0-0 0-0 0, Guthrie 0-0 0-0 0. Totals: 22-69 6-9 53.

KNAPPA (26-2) 78 - Brian Jackson
11-16 4-6 22, Cokley 6-11 8-8 22, Smith 3-4 0-0 6, Mielke 5-9 2-2 12, Fremstad 1-1 1-6 3, Marks 0-8 1-2 1, Ledgerwood 2-3 2-2 6, Adams 0-0 0-0 0, Bangs 1-1 0-0 2, Rathfon 0-0 0-0 0. Totals: 18-26 78.

Lost River 9 15 13 16-53

Knappa 21 17 18 22-78

3-point goals-Lost River 3-27 (Beasley 1-7, Backus 1-4, F. Rayas 1-1, Struve 0-6, M. Rayas 0-4, Chin 0-4, Taylor 0-1), Knappa 2-8 (Cokley 2-5, Marks 0-3). Rebounds-Lost River 29 (Struve 10), Knappa 39 (Fremstad 14). Blocked shots-Lost River 4 (Struve 3), Knappa 5 (Jackson 3). Assists-Lost River 5 (Pyle 2), Knappa 16 (Cokley 4, Fremstad 4). Steals-Lost River 10 (Struve 3), Knappa 12 (Cokley 3, Jackson 3). Turnovers-Lost River 17 (M. Rayas 5), Knappa 16 (Marks 4). Total fouls-Lost River 22, Knappa 14. Fouled out-none. Technicals-none. Officials-Brian Avila, Damon Neufeld. Attendance: 2,771.

ASTORIA HISTORY**State Championship Games**

1923 - University (Eugene) 28, Astoria 25
1929 - Medford 35, Astoria 14
1930 - Astoria 32, Salem 17
1932 - Astoria 32, Salem 29
1934 - Astoria 24, Klamath Union 13
1935 - Astoria 46, Jefferson 26
1941 - Astoria 35, Salem 32 (OT)
1942 - Astoria 34, Corvallis 22
1998 - Astoria 56, Pleasant Hill 46

Career Scoring Leaders

Player (grad. year)	Pts.	Gms.	Avg.
Ted Sarpola (1936)	1,233	116	10.63
Dave Romppanen ('63)	1,167	74	15.77
Austin Houghtaling ('98)	1,017	85	11.96
Gordon Scott (1959)	975	74	13.18
Ron Smart (1953)	921	82	11.23
Pat J. O'Brien (1991)	916	61	15.01
Paul Tadel (1982)	884	70	12.63
Tony Erickson (1994)	881	76	11.59
Mike Goin (1967)	872	71	12.28
Eric Viuhkola (1987)	872	78	11.18
Ted Schoolein (1976)	835	73	12.26
Eli Ettrø (1998)	818	104	7.87
Erron Viuhkola (1988)	808	67	12.06
Thor Norgaard (1992)	800	76	10.53
Howard Lovvold (1946)	799	93	8.59
Roy Seborg (1941)	765	98	7.81
Zach Hiatt (1995)	761	76	10.01
August Norgaard (1997)	752	79	9.52
Andy Marinovich (1982)	691	52	13.29
Rich Grimmett (1989)	688	48	14.33
Jon Norgaard (1963)	681	65	10.48
Wally Palmberg (1932)	679	76	8.93
Jim Mott (1970)	643	46	13.98
Pat T. O'Brien (1978)	624	51	12.24
Tim O'Brien (1983)	620	74	8.38
Gerry Wood (1964)	601	46	13.07
Jon Englund (1955)	600	51	11.76
Raleigh Larson (1973)	597	50	11.94
Curt Miller (1987)	596	47	12.68
Brandon Olson (1989)	591	45	13.13

KNAPPA HISTORY**State Championship Games**

1952 - Rogue River 61, Knappa 52
1955 - Knappa 56, Malin 55
1968 - Knappa 55, Colton 44

1971 - Knappa 53, Pilot Rock 51

1988 - Knappa 53, North Douglas 45

1998 - Knappa 78, Lost River 53

Career Scoring Leaders

Name (Years)	Pts.	Gms.	Avg.
Bob Hunt (1953-57)	2,582	105	24.6
Brian Jackson (1995-98)	1,697	80	21.2
Tim Kelly (1970-74)	1,663	98	17.3
Mark Radich (1985-89)	1,445	75	19.3
Mike Kelly (1968-71)	1,231	76	16.2
Dan Hunt (1960-64)	1,224	70	17.5
Clyde Engblom (1962-66)	1,198	79	15.2
Mike Oien (1993-97)	1,100	74	14.9
Steve Gerttula (1966-68)	1,053	44	23.8
Max Kelly (1948-52)	1,044	89	11.7
Chris Geisler (1988-92)	1,006	88	11.4
Tim Kelly (1982-86)	960	79	12.2
Bill Casper (1988-91)	920	64	14.4
Mike Cokley (1995-98)	901	80	11.3

635-06-230 and OAR 635-41-070 shall have no force or effect with respect to steelhead and walleye purchased and possessed by non-Indians from treaty Indians during Zone 6 commercial fisheries.

One more time the tribes were forced to turn to the court to seek a fair resolution regarding their rights even though change had previously been both promised by the Oregon Commission and strongly suggested by the federal court.

Tim Weaver is an attorney for the Yakama Indian Nation and a partner in Cockrill & Weaver in Yakima, Washington. ~

Letter to the Editor

Dear Don,

Recently my brother-in-law, Charlie Mestrich, sent me copies of the Gillnetter magazine which I found interesting. Among the articles was one by Herb Johnson on horse seining. I, too, am one of the living who took part in this type of fishing. My years were in 1935 and 1936, and it was on Desdemona Sands. We were paid \$3.00 a day with an extra 50 cents for staying the whole season. Our bunkhouse was in Uppertown on the river opposite Hauke's store. We also had great cooks with my favorites, sturgeon chowder and huge slices of salmon always on Friday. The bunkhouse was quite primitive. I remember one old Finnish gentleman who had an affinity for the sauce. He had been a fisherman for many years. When he would get drunk he would throw up and his teeth would go into the river. My father, Dr. Friedrich, an Astoria dentist, had made him ten or twelve sets of teeth. Our days were similar to those on Parker Sands. My job was being the slimey or

the one who took care of the fish in a cumbersome old scow. The foreman on the job was an old salt named Brick Miller who was very loyal to Mr. Barbey, the owner of the operation. One day I was told that someone new would be taking my place as slimey. That day a shining new gillnet boat showed up on the job. It was a morning swift tide and we were all running and no slimey showed up. We looked up the beach and there was the gillnet boat high and dry on the beach. Mr. Miller who was an artist with explosive words, let out a torrent which I'm sure was heard in town. Anyway the next day I had my job back as slimey and the person in the gillnetter was never again on Desdemona Sands. He later became a very successful owner of Barbey Packing Co. I often think about my days horse seining, and whenever I cross the bridge from Megler to Astoria it brings back fond memories especially when I see the sands exposed but not as I saw them sixty-four years ago. Sincerely, Dr. Robert Friedrich

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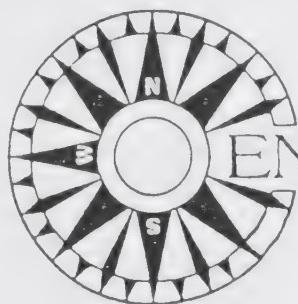
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Waves From The Past

A Snag Diver's Historic Dive at Clifton, Oregon 1959

By Ted Farnsworth, Diver

I woke up with a bright light shining in my eyes. I had been tired driving and pulled off to take a nap.

The state patrolman asked what was going on and after taking a whiff of my breath he said, "Be careful", and got back in his Patrol car.

By this time I was wide awake and took off for Clifton where my diving job for that day was. The patrolman followed for a while to see that I could stay on the road.

The high tide was at five ten that morning in April and there were spots of frost in the sheltered areas. Another cold day in and out of the water that cut like a knife when you first jumped in.

I got to Clifton at a quarter to five, and could see the lights of boats with snag nets already laid out.

Jack Marincovich and his dad were waiting at the dock with their boat below the hoist. We loaded my diving tanks in a Columbia River bow picker. And I climbed into the cramped cabin to put on my wet suit. The cabin on the old bow picker was

just big enough to shelter the engine, a single bunk on one side, a single-burner propane stove to make coffee and one man if he didn't mind being stooped over all the time.

It was just getting daylight when one of the boats blinked his lights to let us know that his net had hung up. In pulling snags to clear a fishing area or drift, the man running the boat with the snag net is key to the work. He has to be sure his net covers one side of the drift, and when the net hangs up he has to pick up enough net to keep the diver from having to crawl too far up the net but not close enough to pop off the snag, and then have to catch it again.

The dive boat pulled up along side the boat with the snag. I jumped over upstream of the net and swam over to the net. With a cable looped on one of the leads on my weight belt, my tender fed cable to me as I climbed down the net. The water was like ice and I shivered all over.

As I descended into the pitch black

the feel of the net and the cable on your belt is your only contact with the world above. When you get close to the snag, the cork line flairs out and you lean over, and switch to the lead line to follow up to the snag. Going back down the net I cleared the net a little, then signaled for slack and worked the lead line from under the stern of the boat. As soon as it got out from under, it pulled up. I could hear it rip and pop as it pulled loose, so I knew the net tore up some.

Going back up the bow I swung with the current up over the side of the boat and instantly cut my wet suit and left leg on something very sharp. Grabbing the cable on the stern cable I carefully felt along the gunnels of the boat. It felt like a rusty steel jagged piece of metal secured to the side of a wooden boat.

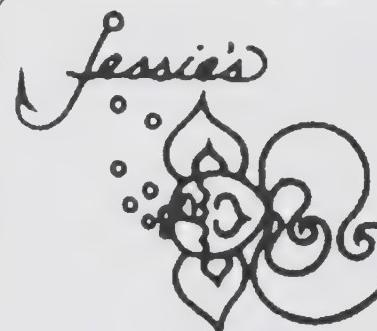
Feeling around inside the boat very carefully I discovered that it was full of rocks. Now why would someone fill a boat with rocks? Carefully I crawled along the inside of the boat

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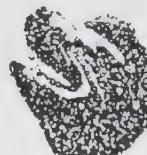
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feeling everything. As I climbed along I kept feeling this sharp metal on the edge. Pulling one glove off, I again felt the side of the boat. Feeling the rusty metal I finally recognized the shape of the jagged rusty metal. Someone had bolted cross cut or falling saws to the side of this boat. The teeth were so thin from rust that I could break some of them off. It must have been here a long time.

The boat from the feel of it was about eight feet wide and twenty feet long and double ended, full of rocks and sand and very hazardous to work on. Making my way back up to the cable at the upstream end of the boat I climbed up to the boat above and that wonderful cabin with the engine and stove for heat.

Telling the people topside what we had, we called for a counsel of all the people on the drift. The boat that had snagged the boat had laid his net out below us and came back to see if he could help. We put a flag up to let the boats in sight know we needed help. Pretty soon we had seven boats gathered around.

In the meantime I had borrowed some iodine and a couple Band-Aids to put on my leg. In the water it just doesn't stop bleeding.

In the conference it was decided that we needed the union snag scow with its winch and pump, and some cargo nets to put the rocks in, and they were in Astoria and maybe booked up. One boat took off for the dock to call the Union office.

There were a couple other snag nets hung up, so since this boat on the bottom was out of the tug boat channel we buoyed it and went to get the rest of the snags out.

The net was hung on a knot on a hemlock log that was mostly buried. It took a few minutes to dig a hole under the log and get it shackled up, then try to pull enough slack to get the net loose and signal the tender to tighten the cable.

Crawling back up to daylight and the boat, I handed my tank and lead belt up to my tender, then swung around the stern of the boat and swam up on the stern deck.

I took my gloves off and tried to

warm my hands a little over the weak flames from the stove. We hauled the log off the drift into an area of slack, shallow water where it would not work back onto the drift.

Already we could see a flag on the mast of another boat signaling another snag and more cold water.



Jack Marincovich at the Clifton dock, and a reminder from the Historic Dive

We pulled a couple more logs and then about 9:00 another net hung up. I had made several dives, so was changing tanks.

As I climbed down the net I didn't know that I was going back into long dead history.

Crawling up to the snag I felt less current and more slack water signaling a large object. As I switched to the lead line I felt a large smooth object on my left, which I thought was a log with no bark on it. As I crawled on up to the top end of the snag I felt around and discovered the bowstem of a wooden boat. Feeling around and up I couldn't reach the top of the bowstem from the bottom.

The snag net was clear around the boat making it difficult to inspect. I pulled up the snag net and found the stern as tall as I was.

Feeling around on the stern deck I located a cavelle, so went back down to the bottom and fed the cable up under the snag net up to the cavelle and secured it.

Signaling the tender up above to tighten the cable I climbed up to the boat and told them that we had a

boat. They were surprised and hadn't heard of a boat sinking in that area, but had been tearing up nets in that area off and on for years.

We had the boat with the snag net pick the net up until he was right along side of us. I instructed him to run ahead and give me slack on the net when I jerked on the net so I could get it from under the stern and off the boat.

We finished getting all the snag nets cleared and I headed home. It took almost two hours to drive home. As soon as I got my wet suit hung up to dry and a bowl of hot soup, I headed to Portland to get my tanks filled and rent a couple extra tanks because I knew I would use a lot more air the next day.

Back home at eight thirty I patched my suit up and was going to bed, when I noticed that my leg was pretty red and slightly swollen where I had cut it. My wife said I should go get a tetanus shot at the hospital. I was pretty tired but went to the hospital anyway. By the time I filled out the paperwork, got the shot and got back home it was after midnight.

In the meantime Clifton drift had called and they would have the snag scow there about six in the morning. Getting up at 3:45 I grabbed a bowl of cold cereal, loaded my diving suit and headed down the road. Stopping at Longview I grabbed a cup of coffee and kept going. By the time I got to Clatskanie I had my head out the window to stay awake. I made it to Clifton without falling asleep.

The whole town of Clifton was there to help that morning. Not that it was that big. Everybody in the town was a fisherman except the C.R.P.A. Station manager.

One of the older men, I don't remember his name now, told us about the Fishermen's Strike in 1894. It seems like the canneries were paying five cents per salmon for Chinook and two or three cents for steelhead and silvers in the fall.

You have to understand that in 1894 the canneries owned everything. The boats were 99% company owned, most of the homes in the cannery towns were company owned, in fact, Clifton was still owned by Columbia River Packers Assoc. at the time of this story in about 1960. Lots of the

men were single and lived in bunk-houses on cannery property. In the winter when they were not fishing the men worked soldering can stock, knitting nets, repairing buildings, docks, and net racks. Some of the more skilled worked in the boat shops building or repairing boats and caulking or painting them. These were the choice jobs, because there was always a stove, a boiler, or a steam box to stand around and get warm.

I got to work in the boat shop at Ellsworth station, a C.R.P.A. cannery east of Vancouver with Axel Nemi, our genius boat building when I was young. I also used the old company houses to hang net in since there was only a couple of cannery workers still living there.

Understanding some of this is essential to knowing how and why this boat with cross cut saws bolted to the sides to tear up nets got there.

When the fishermen went on strike, the canneries brought in scabs to fish the boats that the fishermen had fished and cared for like they were their own. Some of the fishermen took their company boats and hid them up

Youngs Bay Winter Salmon Full-Fleet test fishery.

(2) *Twelve hour Periods*
Feb 25 & Mar 4

*Feb 28 1998
Pictured left to right
Bryant Spellman
Paul Hirose
Doug Case
Matt Hunte
Oregon Department of
Fisheries crew from
Clackamas, Oregon, in charge
of Youngs Bay Net Pen
Projects*



Left to right

*Greg Mustola
Brian Tarabochia
holding a 24lb. Winter Chinook*



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streams or in little sloughs on islands, etc.

The companies still managed to have some boats fishing in spite of all that the regulars could do.

About that time a ship coming to Astoria went aground on Desdemona Sands and was beat to pieces. It had six lifeboats on it and some of the fishermen got the idea of tearing the scabs nets by sinking these lifeboats in the drifts. It worked like a charm, except that some of them covered over and was hard to get out after the strike was settled.

The sand on the bottom of the river is just like waves in the ocean except it moves slower and depending on how coarse or fine it is determine how deep the waves are and how fast they move. Where you have very fine sand like at Skamakawa or at Clifton, the waves are deeper and move slower than where the sand is more coarse.

Apparently this old lifeboat had been buried as that old strike went on and had been relatively under the sand ever since. Now it was coming to life and we, the fishermen at Clifton and me, their diver, had to deal with it.

We first anchored the scow up stream of the boat on the bottom, then rigged cargo nets so we could let go of one end and dunys the rocks off the drift.

Then it was up to me and the cold water to deal with the rocks and cross cut saws. We rigged the drop line so it would hang down from the buoy cable and put ropes to the cargo nets that the boats could haul away after the barge winched them out of the boat without cutting them all up.

The water was like ice, and after you got down about twenty feet, pitch black. I pulled down enough slack on the lines to spread the first cargo net so I could work below it. At first the rocks were easy to get hold of and I soon had enough that I thought it would be a good load for the boat. I signaled the barge with two pulls to lift the net, and let it drag me up to the

surface.

It took a few minutes to unhook the cargo net and pass it to the monkey boat, then rig the next net. I tried to relax in the water but it was so cold that the water was rippling with my shivers.

Taking the second net down I spread it further down the boat then worked from upstream and loaded it from the bow of the boat.

As I went up with the second load of rocks I was glad they had a stove on the scow. As I warmed up they said there was a couple of the snag nets hung up so we would get them loose then come back to the rock job. We pulled a couple more logs then ran back up to the barge. Someone handed me a cup of hot coffee. I drank it slow, as close to the stove as I could get.

The next load of rocks was two-thirds of the way down the boat. There was more sand and it took more time to dig out the rocks and load the net. As I rode up with the third load of rocks I wondered how many loads there was in there.

I asked the fellows to start up the pump and put a good weight on the nozzle so I could blow some of the sand out of the rocks and boat.

It took us the rest of that day and part of a third to get most of the rocks and sand out of the boat. I got a couple more nicks from the saw blades and was tired from fighting the cold.

I thought that we could lift the boat out of the sand, so jettied a hole about four feet from the bow of the boat.

Taking the main line from the winch down the buoy line I fed it under the stern and shackled it up on the right gunnels. The main line was a three-quarter inch cable, and the winch was geared low. We winched it up tight then slowed it down. As we kept winching I kept stepping on the cable to see how much strain was on it. It never got real tight so we thought that it

was lifting the boat. Suddenly the main-line went slack. We pulled it up and all we had was a very rusty cross cut saw folded almost double.

The buoy that was our marker on the bow of the boat was drifting down the river. One of the boats went down and pulled up the buoy. Pulling up the cable was pretty heavy.

When they got it up to the boat the whole stern had been cut off clean. We took the rest of the boat out in pieces that day. That's how the stern of a life boat got nailed to the Gas House at Clifton and it still there today. ~

1998 Forecast

The ODFW staff is projecting a return of 33,700 Willamette spring chinook entering the Columbia River in 1998, slightly below the 1996 and 1997 returns of 34,800 and 35,300 and the seventh consecutive year the run has been below the 100,000 WFMP goal. Since 1946, the run entering the Willamette River fell below 30,000 fish in only three years and in those years a significant number of Willamette spring chinook were landed in Columbia River fisheries and not included in the Willamette return estimates.

Clackamas River Run

The return of spring chinook to the Clackamas River in 1997 totaled 5,800 fish, which is the smallest run since 1979 and well below the 10-year average of 9,400. The run entering the Clackamas River has increased from an annual average of 2,700 chinook in the 1970s, to 8,700 in the 1980s, to 8,900 in 1990-97. The run size increase is attributable to not only the new Clackamas Hatchery at McIver Park, but also to an increase in passage over North Fork Dam, above Estacada, and subsequent natural production. The 1997 Clackamas return was below the objective of 12,400 average annual run size stated in the Clackamas Subbasin Fish Management Plan.

Cowlitz River Run

The Cowlitz run is essentially supported by hatchery production and is closely related genetically to runs in the Kalama and Lewis rivers. These fish migrate earlier than the upriver stocks with the majority passing through the lower Columbia River from mid-March to mid-May.

1997 Run

The adult return in 1997 was 1,700 spring chinook. This was similar to the 1996 return of 1,900 but well below the recent five-year average of 5,400. The hatchery escapement of 1,300 adults fell short of the minimum escapement goal of 1,700. Natural spawning escapement was 400 adults, the highest since 1989. The low preseason forecast resulted in the full closure of the sport fishery in 1997.

1998 Forecast

The forecast for the Cowlitz River in 1998 is for a record low return of 1,500 adult spring chinook. This would be the lowest return on record. Adult returns have been in a general pattern of decline since 1984. The 4-year-old age class is projected to make up 60% of the return. Approximately 1,800 adults are needed to achieve the minimum hatchery escapement goal because a portion of the run spawns naturally. The sport fishery will likely be closed again in 1998. ~

MARINE BOAT DIVING

John T. Jensen
Astoria
503/325-6364
(Answering machine)



continues from page 11

pose or reason for being—now only Bob Smith is keeping it alive.

Savage Rapids Dam in Oregon—This is a rapidly deteriorating 77-year old state-licensed dam owned by the Grants Pass Irrigation District which, according to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service studies, has destroyed at least \$5 million per year in fisheries benefits within the Rogue River Basin. The dam's only function is to supply water to suburban homes and some golf courses that could just as easily (and more cheaply) be supplied by pumps. Fish screens at the dam are antiquated and ineffective. The cost of removing the dam and replacing it with modern pumps would actually cost less (\$11 million) than the \$17 million minimum required to upgrade and fix the dam to allow fish passage. Removal would restore \$5 million per year fishery which would provide economic benefits forever. In other words, the net benefits to the economy of removing the dam are far greater than the value of the dam itself!

Savage Rapids Dam threatens extinction for ESA listed coho in the river. The Water Resources Commission has voted not to extend the District's water permits, but the Irrigation District has so far defied the State. The National Marine Fisheries Service has threatened suit against the district if it continues to operate as usual.

Butte Creek, California—There are a number of small dams within California's Central Valley which provide very little benefit and once removed would provide very little considerable value in terms of restored spawning and rearing habitat for salmonids. Examples include the Centerville Head Dam, the Butte Head Dam and the Forks of the Butte Creek Dam on upper Butte Creek. Removal of these dams would restore access to important spring-run chinook spawning and rearing habitat. The spring-run chinook are now proposed for 'endangered' status under the ESA, and if listed would seriously disrupt central California fishing seasons. Roughly doubling their available spawning habitat by the simple purchase and removal of these obsolete dams would go a long way toward the recovery of this species. After considerable study of this option, the decommissioning of these dams appears quite feasible—and the dams' owners are willing to consider any reasonable offer. ≈

1998 Commercial Allocation of Willamette Spring Chinook

Introduction

The current Main Stem Willamette Subbasin Fish Management Plan (adopted March 1992) provides sport and commercial fishery apportionment guidelines based on expected run sizes. Objective 5 in the spring chinook chapter of the Plan states the following for the commercial fishery share:

1. The commercial share shall be 24% when expected runs are similar to 1981-86 (50,000-90,000).

2. The commercial share may increase to 30% when expected runs are greater than 90,000 fish.

3. At run sizes less than 50,000 fish, the Columbia River Compact shall determine

the allocation in a public hearing. The updated spring chinook chapters in mainstem and tributary subbasin plans are slated for adoption at the February 27, 1998, Commission meeting. Until then the 1992 version remains in force.

The 1998 Willamette spring chinook prediction of 33,700 puts the commercial allocation in 1998 in category 3, to be decided at a public hearing.

Background

This is the fourth consecutive year the Willamette spring chinook forecast is less than 50,000 fish. In 1995 no sport or commercial spring chinook fisheries were allowed in the mainstem Columbia because of the extremely poor forecast for upriver spring chinook and low forecasts for lower river spring chinook stocks. In 1996 the

commercial allocation was set at < 400 spring chinook, to allow a very limited commercial salmon and sturgeon winter commercial fishery. In 1997 the commercial allocation was limited to < 100 spring chinook, as an incidental catch in a winter commercial sturgeon fishery. Specific information for these years is as follows:

Year	Willamette Spring Chinook Prediction	Commercial Allocation Willamette Spring Chinook	Total Willamette Spring Chinook Catch		
			Spring Chinook	White Sturgeon	Chinook Catch
1995	49,000	No Season	0	0	0
1996	41,000	< 400	111	99	800
1997	30,000	< 100	92	83	2,700
1998	33,700	TBD	--	--	--

1998 Staff Recommendation

The ODFW staff recommends the 1998 commercial allocation of Willamette spring chinook be limited to <100 fish. This recommendation is consistent with the 1997 allocation on a similar run size. It is also consistent

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with the fishery impact schedule being proposed in the upcoming Willamette Basin Plan review, which calls for the mainstem commercial allocation at low run sizes is to be minimized as incidental catch during sturgeon fisheries.

Staff has worked with industry to shape the 1988 winter sturgeon fishery to maximize the economic benefits of the sturgeon catch while minimizing the spring chinook catch. The proposal calls for the fishery to end by mid-February before many salmon enter the river and the use of 9" minimum mesh size gill nets to reduce salmon and steelhead handle. The expected catch is 2,000-4,000 white sturgeon and <100 spring chinook. The staff will work with industry to evaluate the performance of the fishery in-season and will provide recommendations to the Columbia River Compact for modification of the adopted fishery, if need be.

Fish Division

ODFW

December 22, 1997. ~

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Of special interest to Johnny Haglund of Knappa...

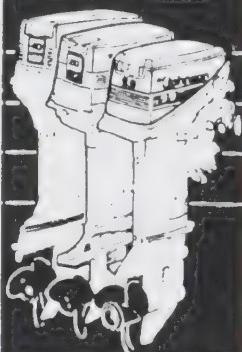
John was on a navy seaplane tender, the "Cumberland," one of the first American ships to enter Tokyo harbor. His job was to run back and forth to various seaplanes as they prepared to fly or landed. John was picked out of 15 Navy men to pick up general McArthur from the seaplane when the

general flew in from the Philippines to sign the treaty which ended the war with Japan. John Haglund handled the "Gig" (small 26ft boat) with one other Navy man (called the Bow hook).

John was the best qualified. He handled boats on the Columbia since he was 12. He had never damaged or even bumped any seaplanes. When McArthur landed, John and his Bow hook sped the general to the Missouri. Once the meeting was over, John returned the general to his seaplane. Quite an honor for John.

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Waves From The Past Sea Serpents!

By John Clark Hunt

CAPTAIN Little of the U.S. Navy shouted to his gunnery crew—"Lower your guns! Fire on that snake!"

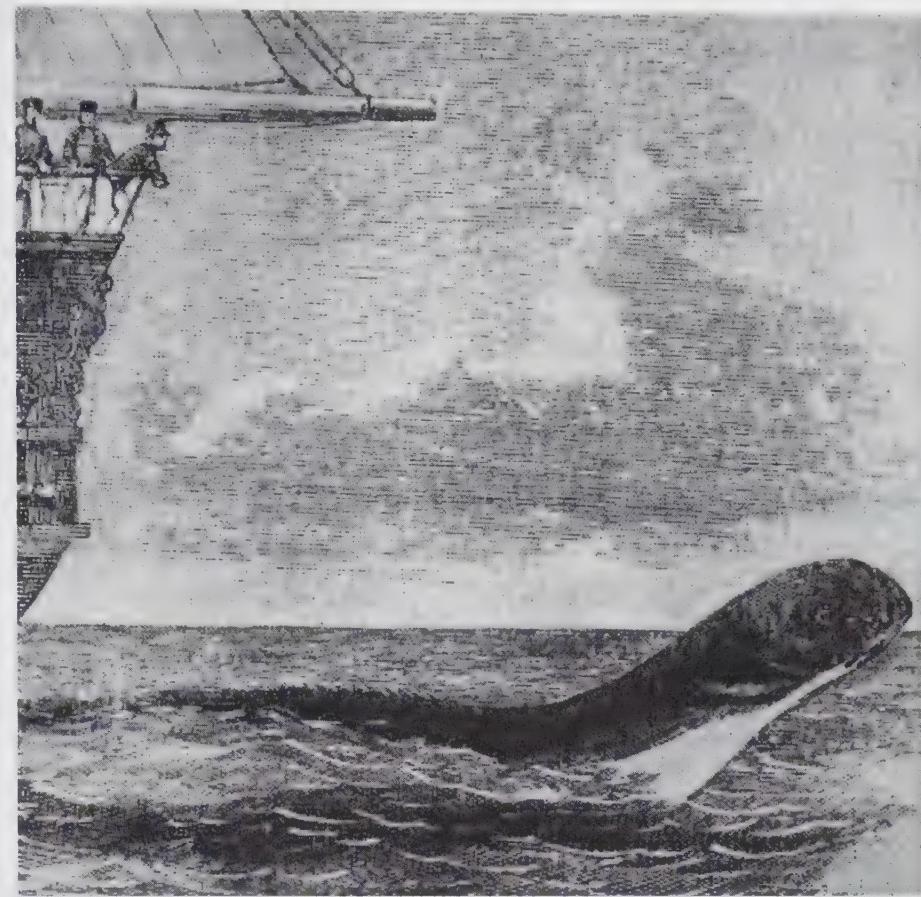
The crew sprang to the deck guns but before they could lower the muzzles of the cannon the huge snake was within 100 feet of the cutter. It plunged under the surface, then reappeared at a considerable distance from the vessel. A strange race developed down Broad Bay near Penobscot, Maine with the cutter trying to overhaul the creature that was sometimes on the surface and sometimes under the swells. The Marines were never offered a target at which to fire and the cutter was never able to close nearer than a quarter of a mile.

It was at sunrise in May 1880 that the sea serpent was discovered on the surface, bearing rapidly down on the cutter. Captain Little's testimony under oath was—"The serpent was 45 to 50 feet long and about 15 inches in diameter, except for its head which was as large as a man and was carried four to five feet above the water. It had the appearance of an enormous black snake."

Major H.W.J. Senior of the Bengal Staff Corps told of his experience one year earlier than Captain Little's. January 28, 1879 Major Senior was aboard the steamship, The City of Baltimore. Her position at the time was lat. 12 degrees 28' N., long. 43 degrees 52 E. At about 10 A.M. the Major saw a long black object abeam the ship's stern at a distance of about three quarters of a mile. It darted rapidly out of the water and splashed in again as it advanced nearer to the ship at a rapid pace. When it was within a half mile the Major recognized the object as a "veritable sea serpent."

He shouted — "Sea serpent! Call the Captain."

Dr. C. Hall, the ship's surgeon, who was reading on deck, jumped up in time to see the monster as did Miss Greenfield, one of the passengers. By this time the sea serpent was only about 500 yards off. On approaching the wake of the ship the serpent

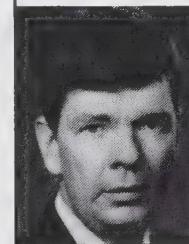


*John Clark Hunt is a Portland writer.
Illustration courtesy of the author.*

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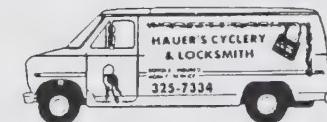
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turned its course a little away and was soon lost to view in the blaze of sunlight reflected on the waves. So rapid were its movements that when the serpent approached the ship's wake the major seized a telescope, but the target moved too fast for him to focus the glass. He had intended to ascertain whether or not the monster had scales, but was quite sure it did not from the excellent view he had with the naked eye. The head and neck, about two feet in diameter, had been out of the water between twenty to 30 feet. The monster opened its jaws wide as it rose and closed them again as it darted forward in a dive, reappearing almost immediately some hundred yards ahead. The body was not visible at all and must have been quite deep under water. The shape of the head was not unlike pictures of dragons Major Senior had seen.

The following account appeared in the London Graphic, February 3, 1877. Captain George Drevar, master of the barque Pauline, encountered a sea serpent about 20 miles off the coast of Brazil on July 8, 1875. He wrote — "The weather was fine and clear, wind and sea moderate. I observed some black spots on the water, and a whitish pillar standing about 30 feet high above them. At first glance I took all to be breakers as the sea was splashing up fountain-like about them, and the pillar a pinnacle of rock, bleached by the sun; but the pinnacle fell with a splash,

and a similar one rose. They rose and fell alternately in quick succession, and good glasses showed me that a monstorous [sp] sea-serpent was coiled twice around a large sperm whale. The head and tail parts of (the serpent) each about 30 feet long were acting as levers, twisting Itself and its victim round with great velocity [sp]. They sank out of sight about every two minutes, then came back to the surface still revolving; and the struggle of the whale and the frantic actions of two nearby whales made the sea boil like a cauldron. The loud and confused noise was distinctly heard.

"This strange occurrence lasted some fifteen minutes, and finished with the tail of the whale being elevated straight up in the air, then waving forward and backward, lashing the water furiously in its last death struggle. The body disappeared from our view going down foremost to the bottom. It was then that the other two sperm whales, the largest I have ever seen, moved slowly towards our vessel, their bodies more than usually elevated out of the water, and not spouting or making the least noise, but seemingly quite paralyzed with fear; indeed, a cold shiver went through my own frame on beholding the last agonizing struggle of the poor whale that seemed completely helpless in the coils of the sea-monster."

If you do not believe these accounts it's certainly understandable for, although

there are many strange things in the sea, it is not easy to accept the existence of such sea monsters. If however, you say that enormous sea serpents and other ocean dwelling monsters did not exist during the nineteenth century and for millions of years previously there is a great body of testimony against you. Numerous fishermen, whalers, crews of the British Navy and other seafaring men made detailed, graphic reports of sea monsters encountered in various parts of the world during the nineteenth century.

But more sea serpents seem to have been seen along the northeast coast of the United States in the 1800's than in any other place. And unless hundreds of calm, intelligent, truthful people were all crazy and seeing things the huge sea serpents were there as reported. These people — judges, ministers, naval men, military men, fishermen, local officials, a cross section of the population — saw the serpents and testified under oath before magistrates as to what they had seen. The objects were not seaweed, ribbon fish, porpoises, schools of fish or floating logs that they saw along the coast and in their bays and harbors. They were great snakes from about 40 feet to 100 feet long. The combined testimony of many people described every detail of the serpents for they saw them from a half mile away to within a few feet.

A close observation made by seafaring men during the middle of the century was that of Captain Peter M'Quhae of the British Navy, commander of the frigate Daedalus, and his crew. He reported to the British Admiralty that on August 6, 1848 while in passage from the East Indies to England they saw an enormous serpent that constantly kept its head and shoulders about four feet above the water and with about sixty feet of its body on the surface. Captain M'Quhae wrote his superiors — "It passed rapidly but so close under our lee quarter that had it been a man of my acquaintance, I should have easily recognized his features with the naked eye; and it did not, either in approaching the ship or after it had passed our wake, deviate in the slightest degree from its course to the southwest, which it held at the pace of 12 to 15 miles per hour."

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sea serpent continues

The report stated that the diameter of the serpent behind the head was about 15 or 16 inches, and the head was without any doubt that of a snake. Its color was dark brown with yellowish white about the throat. It had no fins, "but something like the mane of a horse or rather a bunch of seaweed washed about its back." The men watched the animal for twenty minutes with glasses and its head was never once below the surface. Captain M'Quhae named the men and officers who shared the experience with him and immediately had a sketch made of the serpent. The doubters and professional skeptics did not believe the reports of even the most competent observers or their sworn testimony. Ridicule and laughter gradually dried up reports of strange sea animals. Those who saw them kept the information to themselves and those who had reported such sights regretted that adventure tales, concocted from superstition and embellished by unbridled imagination reaching back to the Middle Ages, were greatly responsible for the attitude. =

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Kalama River Run

Like the Cowlitz run, the Kalama run is essentially supported by hatchery production although natural spawner escapement goals are being formulated. These fish migrate earlier than the upriver stocks with the majority passing through the lower Columbia River from mid-March to mid-May.

1997 Run

The adult spring chinook return in 1997 was 500 fish. This was the same as the 1996 return but well below the recent five-year average of 1,600. The hatchery escapement of 500 adults achieved the hatchery escapement goal of 400 fish. Natural spawning escapement was less than 50 adults, the lowest since 1991. The low preseason forecast resulted in the full closure of the sport fishery in 1997.

1998 Forecast

The forecast for the Kalama River in 1998 is for a return of 500 adult spring chinook. This would be identical to the 1996 and 1997 returns. The four-year-old age class is projected to make up 60% of the return. Approximately 600 adults are needed to achieve the mini-

mum hatchery escapement goal because a portion of the run spawns naturally. The sport fishery will likely be closed again in 1998.

Lewis River Run

Like the Cowlitz and Kalama runs, the Lewis run is essentially supported by hatchery production. These fish migrate earlier than the upriver stocks with the majority passing through the lower Columbia River from mid-March to mid-May. Contribution of this run is included under "other tributaries" in Table 1. Estimated adult returns to the Lewis for recent years are shown in Table 6.

1997 Run

The adult spring chinook return in 1997 was 1,900 fish. This was similar to the 1996 return of 1,600 fish but well below the recent five-year average of 4,100. The hatchery return of 1,000 achieved the escapement goal of 700 adults. Natural spawning escapement was 400 adults, similar to 1996. The low preseason forecast resulted in a partial closure and reduced daily bag limit that restricted the sport fishery in 1997. The sport harvest in 1997 was 500 adults.

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1998 Forecast

The forecast for the Lewis River in 1998 is for a record low return of 900 adult spring chinook. This would be the lowest return on record. Adult returns have been in a general pattern of decline since 1989. The four-year-old age class is projected to make up 56% of the return. Approximately 1,600 adults are needed to achieve the minimum hatchery escapement goal because a portion of the run spawns naturally. The sport fishery will likely be closed in 1998.

Upriver Spring Chinook Run

Upriver spring chinook begin entering the Columbia River in late February and early March, reaching peak abundance in April and early May in the lower river (below Bonneville Dam). All chinook passing Bonneville Dam from March through May are counted as upriver spring chinook. Upriver run size is calculated as the Bonneville Dam count, plus the number of fish of upriver origin caught in lower river fisheries, February-May.

The upriver spring chinook run is comprised of stocks from three geographically separate production areas: the Columbia River system above the mouth of the Snake River, the Snake River system, and Columbia River tributaries between Bonneville Dam and the Snake River. In each of these areas, production is now a mix of hatchery and wild/natural fish. Although no estimates of hatchery contribution to upriver runs prior to 1977 are available, it can be assumed the runs were predominantly wild. Hatchery production in the 1960s and early 1970s was very limited in comparison to current production. Since the 1970s, spring chinook hatchery production in the upriver system has expanded to the point that, in recent years, about two-thirds of the run is hatchery produced. With consid-

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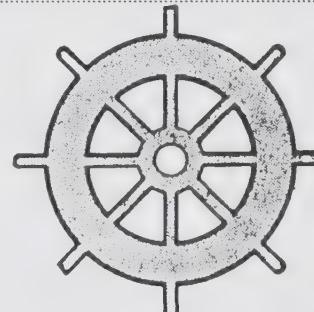


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erable numbers of hatchery eggs, fry, smolts, and adults being out-planted in recent years, it is likely that some of the current natural production is also an indirect hatchery product. In May 1992, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) listed Snake River wild spring/summer chinook as a threatened species under the ESA.

The Columbia River Fish Management Plan (CRFMP) includes interim management goals of 115,000 adult spring chinook at Bonneville Dam and 35,000 at Lower Granite Dam (of which 25,000 should be wild/natural fish). Since 1978, the Bonneville goal has been realized only once (1986) and the Lower Granite goal has not been achieved. The management goal, as measured at Bonneville Dam, based upon agreed-to aggregations of individual escapement goals, as described in the subbasin plans, has not been developed.

Current runs (since 1985) are predominantly hatchery fish. In gen-

eral, runs were extremely poor in 1979-84 (47,000-71,000 fish), with a low point in 1984. The returns in 1985-93 (60,000-121,000 fish) were somewhat improved, with a high point in 1986. The 1994 and 1995 runs were the lowest on record at 21,100 and 10,200, respectively. The 1996 run of 51,500 showed an improvement after the 2-year low, but was still the fifth lowest. ≈

Youngs Bay 1998 Spring Chinook Season

March 17, 1998

The purpose of this fact sheet is to summarize the results of the first ever Youngs Bay full-fleet test fishery during February 25, March 4, and March 11.

The season to date has produced the following information.

Catches and effort:

Date	Chinook	W. Sturgeon	Boats (Peak Count)
Feb 25	8	1	8
Mar 4	30	4	17
Mar 11	35	0	18
Total	73	5	43

- Based on the favorable fishery performance on February 25 and March 4

the season was extended for an additional 12-hour period on March 11.

- Prices paid to fishers of nearly \$5.00 per pound for chinook and \$1.75 for

white sturgeon were very good, generating an ex-vessel value of about \$6,500.

Fishery Sampling:

Date	Mark	Bio-Sample	Av Wt	Snouts	Lower	Upper
Feb 25	7	5	17.4	3	5	0
Mar 4	29	27	17.8	10	27	0
Mar 11	31	31	18.0	10	30	1
Total	67	63	17.9	23	62	1

- About 92% of the total chinook

catch was sampled for marks.

- The catch was comprised of 3% Age 6, 95% Age 5 and 2% Age 4 fish, based on

60 readable scales.

- Visual Stock Identification (VSI) sampling resulted in 62 lower river and one

upriver fish. The upriver fish was also coded-wire tagged (released from Rapid River Hatchery in Idaho).

Coded-wire Tag Recoveries:

Date	Tag Code	# Recovered	Brood Year	Release Site
Feb 25	7-03-43	1	1993	Youngs Bay N.P.
	7-03-44	1		Youngs Bay N.P.
Mar 4	7-03-43	2	1993	Youngs Bay N.P.
	7-03-44	6		Youngs Bay N.P.
	7-03-45	2		Youngs Bay N.P.
	7-11-21	1	1994	Youngs Bay N.P.
Mar 11	10-49-04	1		Rapid River Hatchery
	7-03-43	4	1993	Youngs Bay N.P.
	7-03-44	3		Youngs Bay N.P.
	7-03-45	1		Youngs Bay N.P.
	7-11-21	1	1994	Youngs Bay N.P.
Season	10-49-04	1		Rapid River Hatchery
	7-03-43	7	1993	Youngs Bay N.P.
	7-03-44	10		Youngs Bay N.P.
	7-03-45	3	1993	Youngs Bay N.P.
	7-11-21	1	1994	Youngs Bay N.P.
	10-49-04	1		Rapid River Hatchery
			22	

- A total of 22 readable CWT's were recovered from 23 snouts taken.

- Youngs Bay fish dominated the recoveries with 20 recoveries of 1993 brood

(Age 5) and one 1994 brood (Age 4) recovery.

- The Rapid River Hatchery recovery was the only nonlocal chinook.

On-board monitoring:

Date	#Drifts	Chinook	Steelhead	W. Sturg. (legal)
2/25	22	2	0	(0)
3/4	14	2	1	(0)
3/11	34	2	0	(0)
Total	70	6	1	24 (0)

- The steelhead was a dead, native, winter-run fish.

- Most fishers monitored used 8-inch gear, only 3 drifts observed on Feb 25 with large (>9") mesh.

- A California sea lion and a few harbor seals were observed on March 11.

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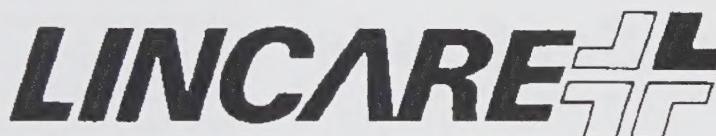


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Conclusions.

- The 3-day Youngs Bay winter full-fleet test fishery successfully met all preseason expectations; local Youngs Bay 5-year old chinook dominated the catch, handle of steelhead was minimal, and high ex-vessel prices were generated.
- Results of the 1990-92 test fishing were validated with few nonlocal chinook and steelhead observed.
- Expectations are good for a solid spring season opening on April 23.
- Future Youngs Bay winter seasons will be based on data collected during this full-fleet test fishery.
- Fishers and buyers were very accommodating, allowing staff to attain high sampling and monitoring rates.

*Paul Hirose
Select Area Fisheries
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The spring quota therefore was set at 2,000 fish.

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Before 1996 there were 10,000 to 12,000 spring chinook caught below Willamette Falls every year.

Drought and poor ocean conditions caused by El Nino seems to be the reason for poor runs the past three years. ~



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Four Dams Too Many on the Snake

All this talk of retiring dams makes some powerful vested interests in the upper Columbia very nervous. It is no longer thinking the unthinkable to consider early retirement for the four lower Snake River dams, and this column has considered the arguments for the removal of these lower Snake River dams before (see "Battle Over the Columbia," FN Oct. '97). When you total up all the costs of the four lower Snake River dams—including long-term dam maintenance costs and the likely costs imposed on the economy by the collapse of the salmon fishery (some 25,000 jobs and \$500 million per year) and the hundreds of millions of dollars that must be spent each year in trying to mitigate the damages done by the dams in the first place—well, they are no bargain, that is for sure! These four dams provide

no flood control, very little irrigation (about 1/10 of 1 percent of all Columbia irrigated lands), only 4.1 percent of the hydropower and few benefits other than transportation by barge to Lewiston. In fact, these four fish-killing dams amount to a huge taxpayer subsidy which benefits only a handful of extremely wealthy barge companies at the expense of everyone else.

What Senator Gorton and the upper river corporate big wigs who are jerking his string on this one are afraid of is just what is coming to pass—once all the facts are known, early retirement of those four lower Snake River dams may in fact be by far the most sensible economic and biological choice. On the Columbia they simply built four dams too many. This is what many scientists are now saying, this is what the economists are leaning towards and this is just what Senator Gorton and his taxpayer subsidized cronies up there do NOT want you ever to hear!

Report says save salmon/money by retiring four Snake River dams

A new economic analysis prepared for the Oregon Natural Resources Council by a resource economist from Boise, Idaho is said to show that the retiring of four dams on the lower Snake River would not only restore healthy salmon runs, but would also result in an overall economic savings.

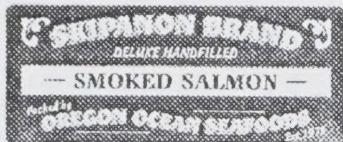
"Not only can we save salmon by retiring these dams, but we can also save money doing it," said Ken Rait of the Oregon Natural Resources Council. "Retiring the four dams on the lower Snake River is the fiscally responsible thing to do. These dams kill thousands of salmon, while providing no flood control, only 5 percent of the region's electricity, irrigation water for less than 1 percent of the irrigated land in the Northwest, and a heavily subsidized navigation corridor that can be replaced by truck and rail. American taxpayers should not be forced to pay for these outdated dams with their own money and dead salmon." The report is endorsed by 25 fishing, conservation and taxpayer groups from across the nation.

"Taxpayers lose money because the government is paying out of both pockets. From the right pocket, the government subsidizes these dams to benefit barge transportation and a few irrigators. From the left pocket, government agencies spend money to barge and truck young salmon around the four lower Snake River dams, a strategy that is not restoring salmon," said Ralph DeGennaro, Executive Director of Taxpayers for Common Sense, a taxpayer advocacy group in Washington, D.C. "This report says retire the dams, leave salmon in the river and leave money in the taxpayers' pockets."

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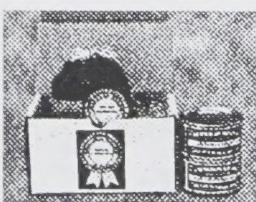
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Farmed salmon sure to have effect on salmon prices

ANCHORAGE, Alaska—Processors here are likely to be extremely conservative when posting starting ex-vessel prices this year because of mixed market news, economists say.

The forecast from the University of Alaska Salmon Market Information Service comes in the wake of a deepening economic crisis in Japan, economists reported in the April 17 issue of the Salmon Market Bulletin.

The bulletin said some processors absorbed significant losses on salmon they bought last summer and that they were not in a position to make many mistakes this summer.

"The deepening economic crisis in Japan, Alaska's largest single salmon market, caused a further weakening in the yen this spring and prompted continued drops in consumer spending," economists said. "Japan's lousy economy, and continuing strong Japanese imports of farmed salmon and trout, combined to make selling salmon in Japan a challenging proposition."

Since salmon is an important mid-priced food item, the bad economic news may have little effect on Japanese consumption, but the gyrating yen could have a significant effect on how much Japanese buyers pay for Alaska salmon, the economists said.

In spite of efforts to develop a U.S. market, the Alaska salmon industry remains almost entirely dependent on Japan to buy its frozen sockeye, economists said. Japanese markets had no apparent problem absorbing last year's sockeye catch, the smallest since 1988 at 109,150 tons. By April, Alaska processors and Japanese importers had only a few frozen sockeye left to sell and no carryover was predicted heading into the new season, economists said.

That meant that processors and importers who held fish last fall and winter in hope of higher Japanese wholesale prices took a beating. Processors who sold fish this spring netted less than \$2 a pound, due to lower value of the yen and cold storage and inventory financing costs. That compared with an average price of \$2.40 per pound for the same fish last August, the bulletin said.

When it became apparent that Japanese reprocessors were running out of sockeye, Chilean salmon farmers, who had sold most of their fish well below production costs since last September, decided to play tough, the bulletin said. They boosted their minimum price guarantee and refused to sell any fish below that level.

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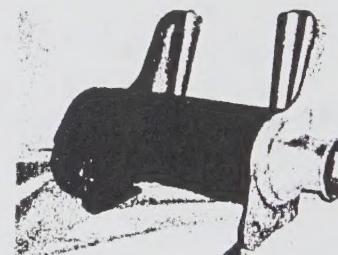
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